AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF GUERNSEY,

FROM ITS

FIRST SETTLEMENT

Before the

NORMAN CONQUEST

To the

PRESENT TIME.

Giving a particular and entertaining Deſcription of the Iſland, its Produce, Trade, Laws, Revenues, Privileges, Religion, and Government in general.

To which is added,

Some proper Remarks on JERSEY, and the other Iſlands belonging to the Crown of GREAT BRITAIN on the *French Coaſt*.

The whole interſperſed with many New and Intereſting Obſervations worthy of Public Notice.

Dedicated to the

Right Hon. Sir JOHN LIGONIER,

Governor of GUERNSEY, &c.

By THOMAS DICEY, *Gent.*

LONDON:

Printed for the AUTHOR; and ſold by *J. Newbery*, at the *Bible and Sun*, in *St. Paul's* Church Yard.

M.DCC.LI.

B L

To the Right Honourable

Sir John Ligonier,

Knight of the moſt Honourable Order of the BATH;

General of his Majeſty's Horſe Forces;

Lieutenant General of the Ordinance;

One of his Majeſty's Moſt Honourable Privy Council;

Governor of the Iſland of GUERNSEY, &c.

SIR,

IT is the peculiar Characteriſtic of a generous and exalted Mind, never to receive Impreſſions of Offence at a well-meant Intention.

FROM this Conſideration, and that amiable Character, in which you ſtand ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed among the more noble, beneficent, brave, and polite Part of Mankind, I am led to hope for your Pardon in taking the Liberty to preſent the following hiſtorical Account of GUERNSEY to your Patronage, and Protection.

ANOTHER Plea, Sir, for the Dedication of it to You ſeems very natural;—and that is; the Sanction I beg leave to lay Claim to, from the high and affectionate Marks of Royal Eſteem, which his Majeſty has publickly been pleaſed to confer upon You, in many Inſtances beſides that of appoint-

appointing You his Repreſentative and Governor of that Iſland: An Iſland! Sir, which, by its original Connection to theſe Realms from the antient *Norman* Conqueſt, has through every Age, and Reign, been deemed of ſuch real Importance, both in Times of *Peace* and *War*, to the *Britiſh* Crown, as always to be honoured by Royal Patent, with Perſons of the higheſt Eminence, Wiſdom, and Integrity, for its Governors.

EVERY *Briton!* Sir, muſt recollect with Admiration your gallant Behaviour on the neighbouring Continent, in the juſt Defence and Support of the *Liberties* of *Europe*; to maintain which, and the glorious

Cauſe of *Proteſtant Freedom*, the *Britiſh* Troops commanded by Generals, not ſuperior to you in Knowledge and Experience, have ever eminently diſtinguiſhed themſelves by their Bravery and Military Conduct; and wherever they have unſheathed their Swords, either as Principals or Auxiliaries, they have upon all Occaſions, nobly ſignalized their Valour: ——Their Behaviour Sir, in the Fields of *Dettingen*, and *Fontenoy*, fighting againſt uncommon Diſadvantages, and Superiority of Numbers, will eternize their Fame, and confirm the Veracity of this Aſſertion.

The extraordinary Honours, and particular Reſpect paid you by

by the *French King* and his Generals, when (from a like Inequality of Numbers, and the momentary Incidents, which ſometimes unavoidably fall out in the Heat and Rage of *Action*) you happened to be ſurrounded by a powerful Body of the choiceſt Veterans of the *Gallic* Forces, at the Battle of VAL! — are the higheſt Proofs how much the noble Qualities of Fortitude and Generoſity command the Eſteem even of our Enemies.— This Event, ſo much lamented at firſt by every Well-wiſher to his Country, was notwithſtanding fortunate for all *Europe*, as it proved honourably inſtrumental towards the Eſtabliſhment of, I hope, a ſolid and laſting Tranquillity, after a vaſt

Profuſion of Blood and Treaſure, during an almoſt *Trojan* War among the contending Parties.

THESE Sir, are Circumſtances that require the Pen of a greater Genius to illuſtrate, than I dare take upon me to boaſt; — but which, to paſs entirely over in Silence, would, on the other Hand, be altogether unpardonable.—Permit me then to ſay, that they were Circumſtances which endeared you to as great and glorious a *Prince*, as ever ſwayed the *Britiſh* Sceptre; and, at the ſame time, as juſtly eſtabliſhed You in the Hearts and Minds of all his faithful Subjects.

THE Court of *France*, well knew, Sir, the valuable Prize that *Fortune-de-la-Guerre* had at that Battle ſo unexpectedly thrown into their Poſſeſſion; and the refined Policy of the *Britiſh* Court (entertaining an high Opinion of your Prudence and Sagacity,) as perfectly knew how to make the beſt Uſe of ſo momentous an Event, by turning it to the real Advantage of their Country in general; eſpecially when ſuch Overtures were at that Juncture propoſed, in order to facilitate, and bring about, an honourable, and amicable Reconciliation between the *European* Powers, as muſt have argued Raſhneſs, and a Diſregard to the true Intereſt of *this* Nation,

tion, not to have accepted; and the more ſo, when it is conſidered that the *French* Court were actually the firſt Suitors for Preliminaries, and the united Voice of the commercial Part of this Kingdom concurred at the ſame Inſtant for Peace, and the ſweet Return of uninterrupted Trade; the Participations of which, we are truly ſenſible of, in their happy and proſperous Effects.

Nor is it a leſs conſpicuous Truth, that notwithſtanding the combined Influence of two of the moſt potent Nations in the Univerſe (taking their natural and political Strength together) co-operating with the malignant Machinations of the Court of Rome,

ROME, our implacable and avowed Enemy; — Yet, in Oppoſition to ſuch extraordinary Force, united in one Body to diſtreſs us,— *Great Britain* has, nevertheleſs, been able, by the *Wiſdom* of her *Councils*, and the *Power* of her *Arms*, to counterbalance and defeat every daring and deſtructive Scheme planned out againſt her: —And, upon an impartial Diſquiſition of all the various Incidents which occur'd, during the long Progreſs of the late War, the Nation in *general*, (and that, Sir, is the true Way of judging) has abſolutely *not* upon the whole, *been in any Degree worſted.*

BUT, to the Honour and high Reputation of *Thoſe* who counſel-

counſelled and conducted our Affairs, in thoſe more than *common* Dangers and Exigencies of State, — we have at *this Hour* the Pleaſure to ſee our *Publick Credit* rather heightened, than impaired: — our Government in a real Capacity to *reduce*, and *pay off*, Part of the *National Debt*; — and, the Circulation of our publick Funds operate with their proper Strength and Vigour.

THESE Obſervations, Sir, can bear no falſe Conſtruction, from the worſt natured Critic, of being Panegirical Compliment only to the *preſent Miniſtry*,—but are actual Manifeſtations of their conſummate Wiſdom in *Reſolving*, and their inflexible Probity in

in *Executing* all their Deſigns with a ſincere Attachment to the true Intereſt of their *King* and *Country*; — as far as human Knowledge, Foreſight, Prudence, and ſound Policy, could poſſibly point out or direct: — And herein, Sir, conſiſts the exalted Excellency, and Nobleneſs of *Great Minds*, in taking Care to do Things that are juſt and honourable, in their own Judgment and Conſciences; whether the Multitude in general, gives, or refuſes them, the Honour they deſerve.

THESE ſlight Remarks therefore, on the Rectitude and Conduct of *thoſe* who have ſtill the Honour to preſide at the Helm of our national Concerns, are

are grounded upon *Facts!* of which neither the Power of Eloquence, nor the ſtudied Art of Sophiſtry and fallacious Arguments, can with any Shadow of Truth diſprove the Validity.

THE *French* Nation, it is true, Sir, may boaſt the Honour of ſo great a General as Sir *John Ligonier*, having fallen into their Hands; — Be it ſo: — Their *Marſhal Belleiſle* and his Brother, had, by Royal Permiſſion of the *Britiſh* Court, but a little before bid Adieu to the fragrant Air that regaled them on the Ramparts of *Windſor-Caſtle*.

ALEXANDER and CÆSAR, Sir, in their Time narrowly eſcaped the

the Hands of their Enemies: — CÆSAR particularly; when the Sons of POMPEY THE GREAT forced him to declare, on defeating them in *Spain*, "That at o-"ther Times he fought for "Fame and Victory! but *that* "*Day* he had fought for his "Life, which he had never "fought for before." — Indicating thereby, that his former Victories were obtained by a like Intrepidity and Skill, but 'till *then* he never was ſurrounded by ſuch Extremity of Danger. — But I will forbear to trouble you farther. — Worth and Merit, Sir, that deſerve the higheſt Praiſe, naturally diſlike long Encomiums, however juſt, in attempting to deſcribe the real Glory of their Actions.

THAT You may long continue, therefore, one of thoſe illuſtrious Ornaments, whoſe Memories are recorded as high Examples of Honour to the *Britiſh* Nation; — That You may alſo riſe more and more, if it be poſſible, in the gracious Favour and Eſteem of his moſt ſacred *Majeſty* King *George* the *Second*; and in the real Veneration of every loyal *Briton*, are the ſincere Wiſhes of him who begs leave to ſubſcribe himſelf with perfect Devotion, and Reſpect,

SIR,

Your moſt Obedient,

Faithful, Humble Servant,

11 June,
1750.

Thomas Dicey.

PREFACE

TO THE

READER.

AS *Cuſtom*, among the different Claſſes of Writers, ſeems to have eſtabliſhed a kind of Neceſſity for *Authors* to annex a prefatory Diſcourſe to the Productions which they exhibit to the Publick,—I have, therefore, in Imitation of ſuch Cuſtom, thought it alike neceſſary to premiſe ſomething (briefly) of my *Intention* and *Deſign*, in taking upon me to offer the following Sheets to the Peruſal of thoſe *Great* and *Noble Perſons*, as well as *Others*, who have honoured and obliged me with their

Names as *Subſcribers*; as alſo to ſuch Purchaſers in general, who, on the Publication of the Book, may think it worth Enquiry after, or Notice.

As to *Intention*, I have always thought it juſtly eſteemed, by thoſe who know themſelves, for *every Man* ſo to employ his Faculties, as, at leaſt, to convince the World (eſpecially his *Patrons*) that he is not, as it were, *benumb'd* with *Idleneſs*, the Mother of many *Vices*; — nor abuſes the noble Activity of the Soul, or the exalted Ideas of the Mind, in vain and trifling Employments; — Or, in other Words, *ſleeps* away time, however unemploy'd from the uſual Scene of Buſineſs, or particular Profeſſion of Life, in which he is ſituated.

From this Manner of Reaſoning, I have, in moſt Intervals from the *common Concerns of the Day*, never thought Time better ſpent than in ſome kind of rational and communicative Study and Speculation: — Conſiſtent to which (as I may, without any

any Preſumption of Vanity, call upon either Friend or Foe, were it neceſſary to juſtify or diſprove,) I have never made any one Point more my Study and Delight, than aiming, as far as my ſmall Fortune or Abilities could contribute, to inculcate the Preſervation of *Union* and *Harmony* among Mankind in general; — and, above all Things, to explode and conciliate thoſe baneful Cankers to civil Society, PARTY DISTINCTIONS, and pointed Reflections to particular Nations, wherever I have found them prevail: —— In which, or any other ſimilar Caſe, to reproach, or condemn the *whole*, for the raſh or ridiculous Actions of a *few*, is a Degree of Meanneſs, far inconſiſtent with true Generoſity, or the Diſpoſition and Character of a wiſe or good Man.

SHOULD it here, as it very naturally may, be aſked, "Why theſe panegi-"rical Compliments on my own Ac-"tions, and Turn of Mind?" — I muſt very frankly acknowledge it to be a Species of *Extortion* from me, — far,

very far, from any Inclination to accumulate the leaſt Shade of Praiſe or Vain-glory. — To ſpeak the plain Truth, the Excitement is this,—I have, more than once, had it gravely hinted to me (by ſome *particular Perſons)* How, one who held an Employment in his Majeſty's Cuſtoms, could think of, or find Leiſure, to appear in the Character of an Author, —— more eſpecially, in that of an *Hiſtorian?* To theſe Queſtions, it was impoſſible to avoid a proper Obſervation within the Bounds of Decency and good Manners; I was, therefore, brought to the following Declarations; —That I pretended to be no teaching Maſter to any Man, but would be glad, if I could, to be a teaching Scholar, being always deſirous to learn of others, even while I aimed to inſtruct myſelf; for he that teaches, learns.— My Intention (in whatever I took occaſion to offer as an *Author)* was, always to work more upon the *Paſſions* than the *Fancy*, — and, if in any Caſe, *Phyſick* be proper, no matter for the Plainneſs of it, or who mingled the Potion.

Potion. — *This*, the Reader will eaſily comprehend to have a Meaning or View towards ſome *political Sketches*; which, from the Reſult of *Principle*, (and I hope no Offence to add *Attachment* to the preſent happy Eſtabliſhment) I have now and then been led to publiſh; from the natural Right of *Engliſhmen* to ſpeak out, and openly avow their Sentiments, when any ſort of Neceſſity ſeems to require it.

WITH equal Propriety to the foregoing Queſtion, (relative to my particular Employment) as well might it be aſked, — Why a Gentleman, proficient in the *Law*, ſhould, in his Avocations, or leiſure Hours, from *that Profeſſion*, make *Divinity* a Part of Study? Or, by like Parity of Reaſon, how a regular-bred *Phyſician*, ſhould, from the Delicacy of his Ear, and a fine Imagination, have an elevated Taſte for *Muſick* or *Poetry?*

FROM the ſame Principle of reaſoning, each of theſe Queries bear an exact Similitude: — And are ſo many Demon-

Demonſtrations, that *particular*, or preſent *Employ*, can be no reaſonable Bar to any Man's Performance, or Studies as an *Author*, in whatever he attempts to uſher into the World, by Way of Uſefulneſs, Entertainment, or modeſt Inſtruction to the *Publick* in general: It is not the *doing* of any Thing, but the *Manner* in which *'tis done*; — whereby every Man muſt expect to *ſtand* or *fall*.

THE Application of theſe ſhort Remarks, is obvious enough to thoſe of a right and intelligent Way of thinking. — *Narrow* Minds naturally circumſcribe themſelves within the Limits of narrow Comprehenſions and Ideas; and, perhaps, indolently paſs away a Series of *threeſcore Years and ten*, in one continued Round or Circle of the ſame beaten Tract of Thinking, Action, or Sameneſs of Employ; without exerting (as the *Britiſh* Merchant, who, by Correſpondence, traverſes the Globe to ſeek out new Commerce and Treaſure) the noble Faculties of the Soul, which Heaven has beſtowed

on

on us, in order to attain lively and generous Conceptions; and to gain, by Reading and Experience, at leaſt an uſeful, if not perfect Knowledge of all Things, to the utmoſt of our Power and Capacities.

HENCE, therefore, be a Man's Situation what it will, it muſt appear a kind of Indignity to human Nature, for any rational thinking Being (the laborious, or lower *Multitude* excepted) to be reproached or pointed to, in having it ſaid, *this* or *that only* can ſuch an one do, and not a Jot more, in any other Sphere of Life, towards the Intereſt, Happineſs, or Uſefulneſs of Mankind, *if* he were once withdrawn from his preſent Employment, or Purſuits.

CONFORMABLE to *theſe Principles*, and Mode of thinking, I was firſt prompted to the *Deſign* of publiſhing the following Hiſtorical ACCOUNT, and ſhall very ingeniouſly confeſs, that the Motives to purſue, and finiſh it, aroſe from a particular Degree of Pleaſure, promiſed myſelf in the Attempt;

tempt; — having ſome few valuable Manuſcript Materials in my Hands, which had for ſome Time eſcaped my Memory, 'till I was agreeably led to their Remembrance, ſoon after the Knowledge of ſo *worthy* a *Subject*, and ſo *accompliſh'd* a *General* as Sir *John Ligonier*, being appointed (on the Death of the late Duke of *Somerſet*) his Majeſty's Repreſentative and *Governor* of *Guernſey*.

If the Particulars, therefore, which I have collected, and ſet forth, of *that Iſland*, and the general Remarks occaſionally interſperſed on the others adjacent to it, prove acceptable, it will yield me ſingular Satisfaction, in having compiled, publiſhed, and ſent them abroad to publick View, and Peruſal.

For ſome Particulars contained in the following Hiſtory, I ſhould be wanting in Gratitude, not to own myſelf much obliged to a very worthy Merchant in *London*, a Native of the Iſland of *Guernſey*; of whoſe Name I forbear the Mention, (however, naturally

rally my own Diſpoſition would have led me to have given it) as I was injoined not to do it, at the Time he generouſly ſought me, and put ſuch Particulars into my Hands.

For the reſt, I may, with the utmoſt Regard to Veracity, venture to add, that I have neither ſpared Pains nor Coſt to render it complete, and have taken Care to relate no Circumſtance, but what will, I believe, on the ſtricteſt Enquiry, appear to be Fact throughout the whole.

I shall beg Leave to conclude my Preface with the following Remarks, partly from the ingenious Mr *Falle*, who publiſhed his Account of *Jerſey* in the Reign of King *William*, —— *Guernſey* having never, before the preſent Attempt, been ſo fully treated of, as to the Hiſtory of the Iſland, its interior Government and civil Juriſdiction, Laws, and ſo forth.

Let none deſpiſe this Work becauſe it treats of a Country of no great Extent, and that makes ſo little Noiſe

Noiſe in the World. — For, as the Power and Wiſdom of GOD are no leſs ſeen in the Productions of the minuteſt Inſects, than of the more glorious Parts of the Creation; ſo his Providence is no leſs to be admired, in the Preſervation of the ſmalleſt States than of the greateſt Empires of the Univerſe. — Is it not indeed marvellous and aſtoniſhing, that in the courſe of near one thouſand Years, wherein ſo many Revolutions have happened in the World, Kingdoms overthrown, Nations plucked up, Cities deſtroyed, almoſt every thing every where turned upſide down, — ſcarce any ſenſible Change, none at leaſt very fatal, has been felt in theſe Iſlands, though ſo nearly contiguous to the Coaſt of *France*. — And notwithſtanding all the Conqueſts, and vaſt Acquiſitions the *French* have made on the Continent, both of *Europe* and *America*, and have ſeldom neglected any Opportunity of adding to their Dominions, and dilating on all Hands their Frontiers, YET they have always been defeated in their Attempts upon theſe Iſlands.

INTRO-

INTRODUCTION

TO THE

HISTORY

OF

GUERNSEY, &c.

CAMBDEN, from the Itinerary of *Antoninus*, calls *Guernſey Sernia*, though moſt Copies of that Itinerary write it *Sermia*, or *Serma*.

SERNIA is generally uſed for the proper *Latin* Name; though in Charters, Records, *&c.* the Lawyers uſually write it *Ghernernia*, *Greneſia*, and *Greneſio*. Some Authors will have the proper *Latin* Name *Veſargia* or *Veſorgia*: They undertake likewiſe to prove the antient *Latin* Name of *Jerſey* to be *Angia*, which the before-men-

tioned Itinerary, and other Authors, call *Cæſarea:* Theſe *Latin* Names for *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, *Alderney*, and another ſmall Iſland called *Sark*, appear to have been given from a certain Donation of four Iſlands (that is, of the Spiritual Juriſdiction of them) by *Childebert*, Son of the firſt Chriſtian King of *France*, to *Sampſon* Biſhop of *Dol* in *Britany*; by which it appears that theſe Iſlands were then under the Power of that King, as a Part or Dependance on *Neuſtria* or *Normandy*. Some again are of Opinion they were firſt peopled from *Britany*, or inhabited by People of that Country.

THIS *Sampſon* did not in his time perfect the Converſion of theſe Iſlanders from Paganiſm; but the Inhabitants embraced the Chriſtian Religion in the time of *Maglorias*, who ſucceeded *Sampſon* in the Biſhoprick of *Dol* about the Year 565.

IN the Year 912, *Rollo*, firſt Duke of *Normandy*, annexed theſe Iſlands to the Biſhoprick of *Coûtance* in *Normandy*; from which time they were never under *Dol*.

KING *John*, having been diſpoſſeſſed of *Normandy*, cauſed theſe Iſlands (which he ſtill retained) to be annexed to the See of *Exeter*; but they did not continue ſo long, devolving

devolving again to the Biſhops of *Coûtance*, under whoſe Juriſdiction they remain'd till the time of Queen *Elizabeth*, when her Majeſty annex'd them to the See of *Wincheſter*, which will more fully be taken notice of in the ſubſequent Account.

King *John* had theſe Iſlands granted him when he was Earl of *Montaigne*, by his Brother *Richard* the Firſt.

Under *Richard* the Second, *Henry* the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth, the Governors of theſe Iſlands had the Diſpoſal of All Offices, which was afterwards reſtrained by *Henry* the Seventh.

Soon after King *Edward* the Third aſſumed the Arms and Title of *France*, one *Maraûs*, a *Frenchman*, took *Caſtle Cornet* in *Guernſey*, and held it for three Years: It is alſo affirmed that one *Evans* of *Wales* took *Guernſey*, *Anno* 1372.

About the Year 1461, one *Nanfant* Governor of *Monterguil Caſtle* in *Jerſey*, being a Dependant on *Henry* the Sixth, was prevailed on (by an Order from Queen *Margaret*, *Henry* the Sixth's Conſort, who was Daughter to the Duke of *Anjou* and *Lorrain*) to deliver up the Caſtle to the *French*, which he treacherouſly did, and

the *French* kept Poſſeſſion of it, as well as a great Part of the Iſland, ſeveral Years —— until Sir *Richard Harliſton*, Vice-Admiral of *England*, with Forces from *Guernſey*, retook it; which Action of Loyalty and Affection to the *Britiſh* Crown, the *Guernſeymen* have mentioned in their Patents, or Charters, ever ſince.

When *Henry* the Third quitted his Title to *Normandy*, he retained theſe Iſlands in the ſame manner as King *John* had done: And *Edward* the Third had a ſpecial Clauſe in the Treaty of *Bretagne*, for the Reſervation of his Title and Poſſeſſion to them in like manner: That Agreement was made the 24th of *October* 1360.

The Cuſtoms of *Normandy*, to which the Inhabitants of theſe Iſlands were always ſubject, were firſt reduced into Writing by a private Hand in the time of *Lewis* XI. of *France*, called *St. Lewis*, who began his Reign *Anno* 1226.---They were afterwards reformed by *Henry* the Third of *France*, about the Year 1578.

The Antient Book of the Cuſtoms of *Normandy* was, by Commiſſioners appointed by that King, ſuperviſed, Chapter by Chapter, and when it had been reform-

ed

ed and corrected by them, a new Book of the Cuſtoms was ratified and confirmed in the Year 1585, and the particular Local Cuſtoms of the ſeveral Juriſdictions of that Province being ſuperviſed, were about the year 1587 ſettled, ſo as they ſhould, for the future, be taken to Stand and Remain: But the *Terrien* Laws (in no ſort dependent on the Cuſtoms of *France*, and ſubject only to ſuch Alterations, as the Wiſdom of the *King* and *Council* of *Great-Britain* may at any Time be pleaſed to order or direct) are now the Laws, by which theſe Iſlanders are governed.

Sir *Edward Cooke*, in his Preface to the ſecond Part of his Inſtitutes, ſays, "That the Book of the Cuſtoms of *Nor*-"*mandy* was compoſed about forty Years "after the Beginning of the Reign of "*Richard* the Firſt of *England*;" which muſt be about the 13th Year of *Henry* the Third of *England* 1229.

These Cuſtoms of the *Normans*, ſo reformed, are, by ſome, affirmed to have been taken from the Old Laws of *England*; and that *Edward*, King of *England*, commonly called *Edward the Confeſſor*, before his coming to the Crown of *England*, in order to ſecure himſelf from the *Danes*,

(to whoſe Power *England* was then brought under Subjection) retired into *Normandy* to his Couſin Duke *William*, and finding there great Defects in the Adminiſtration of Juſtice amongſt that warlike People, more uſed to a Military than a Civil Government, he adviſed him to make uſe of the Laws of *England*, as being better fitted to a peaceable Government, than thoſe they had there at that time.

Duke *William*, deſirous by all means to oblige *Edward*, and to gain his Friendſhip, in hopes of being declared his Heir to the Crown of *England*, of which he afterwards made himſelf Maſter by Conqueſt, complied with the Propoſal, and eſtabliſhed thoſe Laws which appear to be very little conſonant to the Laws of that Country from whence thoſe *Normans* came, who had then been about 160 Years in that part of *France*, now called *Normandy*, and formerly *Neuſtria*; and as little to the Laws of the Country adjoining to them.

Normandy, from whence theſe Iſlanders, according to the beſt Accounts, *firſt* went over and ſettled in *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*, was originally ſo called from *Rollo*, their firſt *Duke*, who had all that Tract

Tract of Land yielded to him and his Succeſſors for ever, in the Reign of *Charles* IV. ſirnamed *the Simple*, King of *France*, about the Year 912, and immediately after *Rollo* was baptized, and his Example, joined to his Authority, ſoon prevailed on all his Followers to be ſo too, who, with himſelf, had committed great Ravages on the Subjects of *Charles*. This Grant was to be ſo held, in Fief, from the Crown of *France*, with the Title and Dignity of Dukes; and further, that upon *Rollo's* embracing Chriſtianity, the ſaid King ſhould give him his Daughter to Wife. — *Rollo* proved a worthy Ruler, and is particularly famed for his great Love, and ſtrict Obſervance of Juſtice. — That Province, or Part of *France*, ſo yielded to him, had long been a wild Scene of Rapine and Confuſion, but he quickly reduced it into admirable Order, eſtabliſhing many good Laws in it, and taking great Care to have them duly executed.

It then got the Name of *Northmannia*, or *Normandy*, became a flouriſhing and powerful State, and its Dukes made a conſiderable Figure. The People under him mixed themſelves with the old Inhabitants, grew humane and civilized, without loſing any thing of their ancient Courage and Bravery; of which, they gave

gave ſignal Proofs in their After-Conqueſts, of the Kingdoms of *England*, *Naples*, and *Sicily*: And their Tempers and Manners became ſo much altered, upon their Converſion to Chriſtianity, that they gained the Character of a religious Nation, beyond moſt others at that Time.

FROM this *Rollo*, deſcended our *William the Conqueror*; — and from thoſe original *Normans* ſprung the Inhabitants of the Iſland now treated of, as well as thoſe of *Jerſey*, &c.

ONE Thing more relating to *Rollo*, Mr *Falle*, in his Account of *Jerſey*, introduces in the following Manner; not only for the Singularity of it, but the particular Concern, which that Iſland has ſtill in it, *viz.*

WHETHER it began through *Rollo*'s own Appointment, or took its Riſe among the People from an awful Reverence of him for his Juſtice, it matters not; but ſo it is, that a Cuſtom obtained in his Time, that in caſe of Incroachment, and Invaſion of Property, or of any other Oppreſſion and Violence, requiring immediate Remedy; the Party aggrieved need do no more than call upon

upon the Name of the Duke, though at never ſo great a Diſtance, thrice repeating aloud *Ha-Ro*, &c. and inſtantly the Aggreſſor was at his Peril to forbear attempting any thing farther: — *Aa!* or *Ha!* is the Exclamation of a Perſon ſuffering: *Ro* is the Duke's Name abbreviated: So that *Ha-Ro*, is as much as to ſay, *O!* Rollo, *my Prince*, *Succour me.* — Accordingly, (ſays Mr *Falle*) with us in *Jerſey*, the Cry is — *Ha-Ro a l'aide*, *mon Prince!* And this is that famous *Clameur de Haro*, ſubſiſting in Practice, even when *Rollo* was no more, ſo much praiſed and commented upon by all who have wrote on the *Norman* Laws. — A notable Example of its Virtue and Power, was ſeen about 170 Years after *Rollo*'s Death, at *William the Conqueror*'s Funeral, when, in Confidence thereof, a private Man, and a Subject, dared to oppoſe the Burying of his Body, in the following Manner:

It ſeems, that in order to build the great Abbey of St *Stephen* at *Caen*, where he intended to lie after his Deceaſe, the *Conqueror* had cauſed ſeveral Houſes to be pulled down, for enlarging the *Area*, and amongſt them, one whoſe Owner had received no Satisfaction for his Loſs. The Son of that Perſon, (others ſay the Perſon himſelf) obſerving the Grave to be

be dug on that very Spot of Ground, which had been the Site of his Father's Houſe, went boldly into the Aſſembly, and forbid them, *not in the Name of* GOD, as ſome have it, but in the Name of *Rollo*, to bury the Body there.

PAULUS ÆMYLIUS, who relates the Story, ſays, that he addreſſed himſelf to the Company in theſe Words, — "He who "oppreſſed Kingdoms by his Arms, has "been my Oppreſſor alſo, and has kept "me under a continual Fear of Death. "Since I have out-lived him who injured "me, I mean not to acquit him now he is "dead. The Ground whereon you are "going to lay this Man is mine; and I "affirm that none may in Juſtice bury "their Dead in Ground which belongs "to another. If, after he is gone, Force "and Violence are ſtill uſed to detain "my Right from me, I APPEAL TO "ROLLO, the Founder and Father of "our Nation, who, though dead, lives "in his Laws. — I take Refuge in thoſe "Laws, owning no Authority above "them."

THIS uncommonly brave Speech, ſpoken in Preſence of the deceaſed King's own Son, Prince *Henry*, afterwards our King *Henry*

Henry I. wrought its Effect: The *Ha-Ha* was reſpected, the Man had Compenſation made him for his Wrongs, and all Oppoſition ceaſing, the dead King was laid in his Grave.

THIS Mention being made of the *Conqueror*'s Burial, at *Caen*, in the Church of the Great Abbey, founded by himſelf; I will juſt add a ſhort Deſcription of his Tomb from Mr *Falle*, which he gives as having ſeen himſelf, and taken Notice of it.

'TIS a plain Altar-Tomb, ſtanding in the Middle of the Choir; and has two Inſcriptions on it, one on each Side: The firſt ſetting forth the Quality of his Perſon, and the Union of *England* and *Normandy*, under him: The other reciting how that Monument had been demoliſhed by the Hereticks (meaning the *French* Proteſtants) and was now repaired by the Religious of the Abbey, in Gratitude to the Memory of their Royal Founder.

TO *Rollo*, juſt before ſpoken of, *Normandy*, and theſe Iſlands became firſt diſmembered from *France*; ſo to remain for ever, purſuant to the Treaty between *Charles* the *French* King and *Rollo*, reſerving only to the ſaid Crown, the Right of chal-

challenging Homage, and giving Inveſtiture upon the Occaſion of a new Duke.

By Accidents and the Fate of War, *France* got Poſſeſſion again of *Normandy*, as they now hold it; but could never recover theſe Iſlands either by Statagem or Force, as the ſequel of this hiſtorical Account will ſhew.

☞ This being generally premiſed, by way of Introduction, I ſhall now proceed with the Subject Matter.

AN

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A N

Hiſtorical Account

OF THE

Iſland of GUERNSEY, &c.

THE Iſland of GUERNSEY is ſituated about ſeven Leagues North Weſt of *Jerſey*, in the Latitude of 49 deg. 7 min. and, like the neighbouring Iſles, is encompaſſed by the *Britiſh* Sea; in Circuit about 36 Miles.

THE Emperor *Antoninus*, having the abſolute Dominion of *France* (at that time called *Gaul*, from whence the Word *Gallia* is derived) gave this Iſland the Name of *Sernia*, as before obſerved; which afterwards, by the Change of Times and Corruption

Corruption of Languages, was long ſince, as it now is, called *Guernſey*.

THIS Iſland, as to its Form, ſtands in the Sea much like a Park ſurrounded by a Pale of Rocks, very defenſive to it from any Attempts of Invaſion.---The Air and Climate hath little or no Difference in its Temperature or Quality from that of *Jerſey*; and it is worthy Obſervation, that in this Iſland there are very rarely, if ever, ſeen, or known to be, either Toad, Snake, Adder, or any other venemous Creature; which is the more remarkable becauſe *Jerſey* abounds with great Numbers.

IT ſtands, for the moſt Part, upon a Rock, very high from the Sea, and in many Places it is mountainous; notwithſtanding which the Soil is very fruitful, yielding great Plenty of Graſs for Sheep and other Cattle.

THEIR Verdure in general is hardly inferior to any; and their Fields in the Spring and Summer Seaſons are by Nature ſo agreeably diverſified with Flowers of all Sorts, that a Perſon on the Spot might imagine himſelf to be in a pleaſant, artificial Garden, where the Eye is luxuriantly delighted with one continued

nued Kind of beautiful Noſegay; and the Smell as agreeably gratified with its ſweet ſcented healthful Fragrancy: To which, may very juſtly be added, the moſt pleaſing Proſpect, on every Side to the Sea, on the Sight of Shipping, paſſing by the oppoſite Shores, or coming in, or going out of their own Harbour, at Morning or Evening Sun.

The Inhabitants are not ſo much given to Tillage, as thoſe of *Jerſey*, though the Soil is equally rich and fertile: But, within this Century paſt, they have taken more Delight in planting and ſetting of Trees of all Sorts, — eſpecially Apples; and are much noted, for making very fine Cyder in great Quantities.

In this Iſland are many large ſteep Rocks; among which, is found a hard Stone, called by the *French*, Smyris, to which we give the Name of Emeril. — This Stone was formerly dug out in great Quantities; uſeful for many Purpoſes, and Trades; eſpecially for Goldſmiths, and Lapidaries, in cutting Diamonds and other curious Stones.

It has a Head of Land, upon the North Part, of an odd romantick Appearance; into which the Paſſage is ſo nar-

row, and the Sea beats ſo ſtrong on both Sides, that in high blowing Winds, and on the Flow of every Tide, a Stranger would imagine it in continual Danger of being ſeparated from the other Part of the Iſland.

THIS Place is called St *Michael* in the *Vale*, where, in former Times, ſtood a Priory, or Convent of religious Perſons; ſome ſmall Part of the Ruins whereof, are at this time to be ſeen.

THE Government of this Iſland and *Jerſey*, in Nature and Form, reſemble each other, in moſt Particulars.

THE People, in their original Language, alike alſo; but in their Cuſtoms, and Manners, the Inhabitants of *Guernſey* come nearer the Faſhions of the *Engliſh*.

IT has ten Pariſhes (which will hereafter be particularly taken notice of) and one principal Market Town; being alſo a Haven, which annually receives, and ſends out a conſiderable Number of Shipping; and is called *St. Peter's Port*, built cloſe by the Pier, and *Caſtle Cornet:* Where alſo is lately erected a very fine Fort or Garriſon, for the Troops that are ſent over there.

GUERN-

GUERNSEY produces almoſt all kinds of Forreſt and Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Roots, Flowers and Herbs, whether medicinal, aromatic, or eſculent, but not in ſuch conſiderable Quantities as in *Jerſey*, where alſo they have a peculiar ſort of Wheat, which remains but three Months in the Earth, being ſown about the latter end of *March* and the whole Month of *April*. — In both theſe Iſlands (particularly *Jerſey*) there has been of late Years a great Increaſe of Cyder, and the Inclination of the People to that Liquor preferably to Beer, occaſions little Malt to be made in either of them, ſo that it is ſcarce worth their while to ſow any Barley at all, were it not converted to Bread; which of itſelf makes but a coarſe Kind, yet wholeſome and nouriſhing; and this Bread is what Servants and meaner ſort of People moſtly eat: But a proper Mixture of Wheat corrects that Coarſeneſs, and ſuch Bread is often made Uſe of by many of the better ſort of People, who at the ſame time are not without good wheaten Bread in their Houſes.

THEY are not ſuch great Fleſh Eaters as in *England*, yet their Shambles on a Market Day are well provided with good Beef, Mutton, Lamb, &c. which for

Sweetneſs and Tenderneſs of the Fleſh, makes it preferred by many to what is in other Countries larger and fatter. — The Smallneſs of their Cattle, may in a great Meaſure be owing to the Shortneſs of their Graſs, and its not having the Rankneſs of richer and deeper Paſtures. — Hence alſo, both *Guernſey* and *Jerſey* are remarkable for the peculiar Goodneſs of their Butter. — They have but few good ſaddle Horſes, but enough for the Cart and Plough, ſtrong tho' ſmall, leſs ſubject to Diſtempers, and will bear more Fatigue, and fare harder without Inconvenience, than moſt *Engliſh* Horſes. — Their Game is confined to the Hare and Rabbit, the Country not being ſpacious enough for Bucks, Stags, or Foxes to range in. — They have Plenty of all ſorts of Fowl, whether Barn-fowl, Wild-fowl, or Sea-fowl. — Among the latter, Mr *Falle* gives a particular Account of the famous *Soland-Geeſe*, called in *Jerſey*, *Barnacles*, which are with them only in very cold Winter Seaſons. And 'tis the vulgar Opinion of many in that Iſland, that thoſe Fowls are bred of a rotten Plank, or Rib of a Ship; which, from long floating in the Sea, and imbibing its Salts produces thoſe Geeſe; and many affirm, that they have ſeen them ſticking to the Wood; ſome no bigger than Muſhrooms, and almoſt of that Shape;

ſome

ſome a little more brought into Form; others perfectly fledged, and juſt ready to fly. — That in moſt Parts of the World innumerable Creatures proceed from Corruption, is a Fact not to be doubted; — how far ſuch Productions may incline the Reader to a Belief of the above Account of thoſe *Barnacles* or *Solan Geeſe*, I leave entirely to his own Judgment.

THEY have round the Iſland of *Guernſey* great Quantities of divers ſorts of Fiſh. Shell and Rock-fiſh, Oyſters, Lobſters, Crabs, *&c.* and Plenty of Flat-fiſh, Thornbacks, Turbuts, Soles, Plaice, *&c.* Mullets, and a ſort of Sea-carp; and the Sea about all theſe Iſlands abounds with prodigious Quantities of Congers, weighing from thirty to forty Pounds: — Every Day in the Week Boats go into *Guernſey*, laden with ſuch freſh Proviſions.

IT is not my Deſign to give a complete natural Hiſtory of this Iſland, or I might take Notice of many more Birds, Fiſh, *&c.* remarkable for ſome Peculiarity or other. The Sea being ſo bountiful to them, they can the better be without freſh Water Fiſh; of which they have but very few, ſuch as Carp and Eel, for want of proper Rivers; but ſeveral Gentlemen have pleaſant

ſant little Viviers or Fiſhponds, for their own private Uſe and Recreation.

The Iſland is generally healthy, and, (as Mr *Falle* obſerves of *Jerſey*,) it may, in like manner, be juſtly obſerved of this, that it naturally muſt be ſo, conſidering the Height and Declivity of the Land, and (in Conſequence of that) the Rapidity of the Streams, together with thoſe freſh Breezes, which blow almoſt continually from the Sea; and the Land in general not laying low, they are not of Courſe ſubject to ſtagnated Air and Water.—The Cold in Winter is not ſo great here, as in other Parts under the ſame Latitude. — But they are ſubject to high Winds, which blow moſtly from the Weſt. The vaſt and amazing Chain of Rocks that environ this Iſland (as well as *Jerſey*) ſome above, others under Water; ſome nearer, others farther off; and the many ſtrong Tides and Currents that run among thoſe Rocks, render the Acceſs to them very difficult and hazardous, except to ſuch as are well acquainted with the Coaſt; and it admits of ſome Reaſon to imagine that many of thoſe Rocks were once firm Ground, which the Force and Rapidity of the Sea may have torn from the Shore, in the ſame manner as the Goodwin Sands, from that Part of our *Engliſh*

Engliſh Coaſt, and ſome other Places on the Coaſt of *Suſſex*, particularly about *Brightelmſtone*.

FROM this Mention of the great number of Rocks, ſo dangerouſly ſurrounding this Iſland; I am very naturally led to the Recollection of a moſt extraordinary Deliverance from the Fate of periſhing among them; an Act of the Almighty's great Goodneſs and Mercy ſhewn, as well to myſelf, as to a conſiderable Number of Paſſengers and the Ship's Company, about the Beginning of the Month of *Auguſt* in the Year 1732.

WE were on Board the Ship *Henningham Caſtle*, about three hundred Tons Burthen, bound for *London*, from the Iſland of *Antigua*. After a long Paſſage of twelve weeks and five Days, in which we had met with very blowing contrary Winds, and exceeding tempeſtuous Weather, particularly off the Banks of *Newfoundland*, and for many Days had not been able to make any Obſervations from the Sun; we at length met with two Veſſels, one a Packet, bound from *Falmouth* to the *Groin*; the other a Dutch Ship, from *Surinam*, bound for *Holland*, whoſe Captain gladly followed the Courſe we ſteer'd

ſteered, in order to accompany us in making the *Engliſh* Channel.

THROUGH the Obſtinacy, or Ignorance of our Commander, and notwithſtanding the Captain of the *Pacquet* had well informed how the *Lizard Point* bore from us, and conſequently how we ought to have ſhaped our Courſe that Night, yet from the Imprudence of our Captain, or an unhappy Fatality, we were about Twelve o'Clock the ſame Night, ſuddenly ſurprized by a frightful Noiſe of the Surge of the Sea beating againſt Rocks or main Land, for at that Time we knew not which. And here, without affecting the Orator, or endeavouring to captivate by a tedious Deſcription, I can venture to affirm, that the Night was really as dark and diſmal in its Appearance thro' every Part of the Sky and Horizon, as poetical Fiction could well paint it; and, in the Sailor's Phraſe, not being able to ſee ones Hand held out on the Deck. Upon all Hands being called up, we found ourſelves inſtantaneouſly ſurrounded by Rocks; and on ſounding, we found not above one Fathom Water more under us, than what the Ship drew. This, with the Shrieks and Cries of ſome Ladies, who were Paſſengers, was no ſmall Addition to the diſaſterous Shock we laboured

boured under, not knowing, or being able to conceive what particular Land we were near.

In this Confuſion, having about fifty Souls on Board, and the *Surinam* Ship, tho' not in Sight, firing Guns of Diſtreſs, all ſtood amazed, not knowing which way to diſengage ourſelves, or how immediately to get down Anchors: In the Attempt of which, two actually were cut to Pieces by the Rocks and Shoals; but at laſt our Sheet Anchor happily held, and preſerved us: But not before every Sailor was ſtanding by with proper Inſtruments to cut away, and get out their Boats, in Order to have quitted the Ship; which was, however, prudently prevented by the good Management of the Mate and inferiour Officers: And we rode ſafe 'till the Weather broke out clear, and the Morning uſhered in — When, to our more than common Aſtoniſhment, we found ourſelves every way environed by Rocks and a main Land, great Numbers of People coming down from the Country, equally amazed, (as we were afterwards informed) at the ſight of a Ship being ſeen where we lay at Anchor. However, after firing two or three Guns, we inſtantly weighed, and with the utmoſt Difficulty got clear from between

between two Rocks at Noon-day, which Providence had ſo miraculouſly in our Favour ſuffered our Ship to paſs through, unperceived by any of the Crew, in the Midſt of Darkneſs and blowing Weather.

The *Surinam* Ship, with about ſixty Hands on Board, we imagine to have periſhed, by miſſing the Paſſage thro' thoſe Rocks, and, in all Probability, bulged aſhore on the main Part of the Iſland; which we found to be *that* of which I am now giving an Account.

As for the Tides about theſe Iſlands, it is obſerved, that they are very extraordinary, and differ much from the reſt in the *Britiſh Channel*. — They receive their Motion at the Mouth of the Channel, and take different Impreſſions from the ſeveral Heads of Lands, and Ledges of Rocks, along and thro' which they paſs. They tend Eaſt-South-Eaſt to the Bay of *Mont St Michael* (in *Jerſey*) by Reaſon of its Flatneſs. In that Bay the Sea flows and ebbs ordinarily from fifteen to twenty Miles, and fills it in the Space of two Hours. When it is full, the Motion of the Tide is checked, and they are conveyed Northwards along the Coaſt of *Normandy*, and ſo in twelve Hours quite round the Iſlands.

Of the General State of their COMMERCE, *&c.*

I SHALL proceed now to take a general View of the Intercourſe of Trade, carried on, from and to *Guernſey*, with their Mother Country, *England:* In which alſo, tho' it is not my Intention to dwell on many Particulars in relation to *Jerſey*, I ſhall yet generally ſpeak to their Traffick in like Manner.

AND, firſt, without Compliment to the Inhabitants of *Guernſey*, (or, indeed, *Jerſey*, according to the beſt Accounts of both) it may be aſſerted as a Fact, that no People whatever are more punctual and exact in all their Dealings, Payments, and Methods of Accounts.

THIS is a known Truth, which will, I dare anſwer, be readily acknowledged by all *Engliſh Merchants*, or others, who have Concern with, or carry on any Correſpondence to theſe Iſlands: And that, in general, they are a ſober, induſtrious, frugal People; perfectly well attached to the true Intereſt of the *Engliſh* Nation, in Oppoſition to all its Enemies; and none more indefatigable in their Views to extend Commerce.

THE Inhabitants of *Jerſey* (from the ſomething greater Popularity of their Iſland) have ſome Advantages more than thoſe of *Guernſey*; particularly in a conſiderable Branch of Trade, of late Years greatly augmented, from thence to *Newfoundland*; to which Place the *Jerſey* People yearly ſend over ſeveral large Ships; which from thence proceed into the *Mediterrancan* Sea, with their Lading of Fiſh; call at the Markets there, and carry home very advantageous Returns to their Owners. In the Year 1732 it was remarked, that there went out on that Trade only, twenty-ſeven good Ships with upwards of two thouſand Men.

THEY have but one conſtant ſtanding Manufacture for Exportation, namely, that of knit Hoſe or Stockings, (and within theſe few Years, Breeches work'd in the ſame Manner) of which many thouſand Pairs are weekly made in that Iſland. — Some have not ſcrupled to ſay ten thouſand.

GUERNSEY takes from *England* great Quantities of Haberdaſhery Goods, of every Kind, moſtly of our own Manufactory; all Sorts of Mercery and Grocery Wares; refined Sugars, Spices, *&c.*

As

As alſo houſhold Goods, Leather, *Newcaſtle* Coals, and many other Commodities. In Return for which, the Merchants of *Guernſey* ſend over Wines, and very conſiderable Payments in Caſh both to *London* and *Briſtol*.

For Wool, received from *England*, they return large Quantities of Worſted Stockings, Waiſtcoats, and Breeches.

Many *Engliſh* Merchants, who trade to *Liſbon* and *Oporto*, have Store-houſes in *Guernſey* for the Reception of conſiderable Quantities of Wines that are landed there, and left for Convenience, till they ſend over for them, as their Stocks of Wines here decreaſe on their Hands. And it is no leſs remarkable than true, that all Wines (eſpecially *Liſbon* or White Wines) kept at *Guernſey* but a very few Months, do actually imbibe, or receive a peculiar Flavour, and are mended in Quality, to what the ſame Species of Wines have, when immediatly imported here from *Portugal* or any Part of *Spain*.

The general Trade of theſe Iſlands muſt of Courſe be ſubject to many Ebbs and Flows, according as *England* is at Peace or War with her Neighbours.

Of their Cuſtoms, Laws, *&c.*

THIS Iſland, was antiently Part of the Dutchy of *Normandy*, as may without all colour of Contradiction be made appear by ſeveral antient Records, yet remaining at *Coûtance* in *Normandy*, and ſome in *England*; (notwithſtanding all that may be urged to the contrary, by Mr *Selden*, in his *Mare Clauſum*, *Lib.* 2. *Cap.* 19.) and came to be Part of the Dominions of the Crown of *England*, by *William* the *Conqueror* attaining that Crown.

THE ancient Records of theſe Iſlands, are all, or, for the moſt Part, in the Archives of *Coûtance*; — which, about eighty Years ago, a very learned Man (one Mr *Poindextre*) Lieutenant Bailiff of *Jerſey*, having peruſed, as well as thoſe of his native Country, he wrote a Book concerning the ſame, which was well eſteemed of, by moſt of the learned Antiquarians.

WHEN Popery was ſuppreſſed, in the Iſland of *Guernſey*, in the Days of Queen *Elizabeth*, the popiſh Clergy, in whoſe keeping thoſe Records were, for the moſt Part, before they left the Iſle, put them in Hogſheads, and other large Veſſels, together with their Church Ornaments, Plate,

Plate, &c. and ſecretly buried them under Ground, in a ſmall contemptible Chapel, in the *Cloſe du Vale*, about the North Eaſt Side (now quite ruined) dedicated to St *Maglorias*, upon a Point near the Sea, and far from Neighbours, that they might afterwards dig them up, and carry them to *Normandy* without Danger. — But ſome Years, after one *John le Petty*, Schoolmaſter, in that Pariſh, having certain Intelligence of this Circumſtance, by ſome *Normans*, who employed him in that Deſign, did in the Night Time take up all thoſe Books, Veſtments, Plate, &c. and privately ſold them at a low Price to ſome *Normans* at *Coûtance*, who cunningly convey'd them away: So that of all the Plate, which they formerly uſed in the Celebration of their Maſs, there was left but one Chalice of Silver, Gilt, belonging to St *Sampſon*'s, which is yet extant, and uſed in the Communion.

Both before, and ſince the Time of *William the Conqueror*, the Cuſtom of *Normandy* has been, moſtly, or with little Variation, the Law by which all civil Affairs in this Iſland have been governed; and as to eccleſiaſtical Government, it continued to be Part of the Dioceſe of *Coûtance* 'till the Time of Q. *Elizabeth*.

THERE was antiently a Dean, who had epiſcopal Juriſdiction, by Delegation from the Biſhop of *Coûtance*, the Dioceſan. In the Time of *Edward* VI. the Reformation was introduced there; to which ſome continued ſo firm, that in the Reign of Queen *Mary* (that deluded bigotted Princeſs, to ſay no worſe of her,) in the Year 1556, three Women, and a Child taken out of the Belly of one of the three, were burnt for Hereticks: Such was the fiery Zeal of thoſe diabolical Popiſh times.

IN 1568, Q. *Elizabeth* was pleaſed to unite this Iſland to the Dioceſe of *Winchester*, continuing ſtill the epiſcopal Juriſdiction there. But in 1565, the People there began to have a Liking to the Way and Manner of the reformed Churches in *France*, and obtained Leave to have the ſame Order followed in the Church of *St. Peter's Port*: But withal there was a Direction given in the ſame Order, that the Service of the Church of *England* ſhould be uſed in all the other Churches in the Iſland. But that one Church ſoon drew all the reſt after it; for in 1576, they held a Synod, and again in 1597: At which Times Rules were ſet down and agreed on amongſt them for the Government of the Church, after the Manner of the *Preſbyterian Diſcipline*,

cipline, uſed in the reformed Churches of *France*: To which it ſeems the *Governor*, as well as the *People*, at that Time ſtood much inclined.

THESE Rules and Orders thus framed, and agreed on, were allowed and confirmed by K. *James*, by his Letters, dated at *Hampton Court*, the 8th of *Auguſt* 1603. And this continued in Uſe there 'till K. *Charles* II. was pleaſed by his Letter to the Lord Viſcount *Hatton*, then Governor of the Iſland, dated 15 *July*, 1662, to approve of the Preſentation, he, as Governor, had made to one Mr. *John de Sauſmares* to the *Deanery* of that Iſland; and, withal, that the *Act* of *Uniformity* made in *England*, ſhould be obſerved and put in Execution there. And that certain *Rents*, which had in ancient Times been given towards the Reparations of each Pariſh Church in the Iſland, and for ſeveral Years theretofore had been applied to other Uſes, ſhould now again be reſtored to the Uſes intended: Which Order ever ſince has been punctually obſerved.

THE People of this Iſland, nor their Eſtates, have never been under the Juriſdiction of any of the Courts of Juſtice in *England*; nor have any Writs out of any

any of thoſe Courts ever been of Force there. By the Precept of Aſſiſe, and the Extent of K. *Edward* III. (which are two chief Pillars of his Majeſty's Rights) the Proceedings of Juſtice, and the People's Liberties there, that is, the Priviledge of the Inhabitants, for their Loyalty to the Crown, (for which they pay ſome Subſidy to the King) are 1ſt, not to be ſubject to any of the Courts in *England*, nor to be ſerved with any Proceſs, or called over by any Writ, to anſwer there. 2. That in all Matters they muſt be firſt judged in the firſt Inſtance there, before the Cauſe be tranſmitted to *England* by Appeal, or otherwiſe.

The *King* is the ſole Legiſlator; and his Orders ſolemnly promulgated in Council are of Force to make or alter any Law there. And the Lords of his Majeſty's privy Council are the ſupreme and ultimate Reſort in all Matters of Judicature. — Yet the Judges there have ſometimes preſumed to make many Orders (eſpecially in their Court of Chief Plaid) which they afterwards have alſo cauſed to paſs for Law amongſt the People; and that without the King's Privacy or Confirmation of the ſame, as it ought to be, according to the Practices of the Parliament of *France* in like Caſes.

They

They have for many hundred Years had a Bailiff and twelve Jurats; of the Duty of whoſe Offices I ſhall take particular Notice.

By the general Cuſtom of *Normandy*, practiſed, without doubt, in all Things in *Guernſey*, before it was divided from thence, the Bailiff is the ſole Judge in all Cauſes, within the Precinct of his Bailiwick: Yet he muſt give Sentences with the Opinion of Aſſiſtants; which Aſſiſtants are the chiefeſt of the Advocates preſent, not intereſted in the Cauſe then to be judged; which Point is therefore one of the Articles to which the Advocates are ſworn, at their Admiſſion into that Office. But ſince the Loſs of *Normandy*, the King uſed to ſend four Knights into the Iſland to be Aſſeſſors to the Bailiff, inſtead of the Advocates. And afterwards the twelve Jury-men of that Iſland were made Judges, in the place of thoſe four Knights, as appears by the Extent and Precept of Aſſiſe. And, ſince that Time, thoſe Judges were always ('till about one hundred and ſeventy Years ago) choſen, not, as at preſent, by *Dozeuers* and Conſtables, for the whole Pariſh, but by all the Freeholders, at the Church Doors, after divine Service. But when,

when, how, and for what Cauſe, theſe Changes came from Advocates to Knights, and from Knights to Jurors, there is abſolute Silence in the Records of the Iſland.

THE Bailiff and theſe Jurats judge all Cauſes, criminal or civil, amongſt them, except in three Caſes, *viz.* Treaſon, Coining, or Violence offered to the Bailiff or any of the Jurats, while they are upon the Seat of Juſtice, in the Execution of their Office.—Which three Caſes are, and always have been referred to the ſole Cognizance of the Crown.

THE Sentences of the Bailiff and Jurats were antiently not definitive; eſpecially in Matters of great Moment or Difficulty; the final Deciſion of which was referred to the Judgment of Judges Itinerant, which were conſtantly ſent thither once in three Years. But that having now, for more than ſeventy Years been omitted, inſtead thereof there now lies an Appeal to the Lords of his Majeſty's Privy Council, from the Sentence of the Bailiffs and Jurats, in all Cauſes, where the Matter in Conteſt is of the Value of Forty Pounds Sterling, in Goods or Chattels; or of forty Shillings Sterling, of yearly Rent, or upwards; ſo as ſuch Appeal be proſecuted within one Year and a Day

Day after the Sentence given by the Bailiff and Jurats; from whoſe Sentence, however, in criminal Caſes, there lies no Appeal. — In this laſt Circumſtance, I think, there does not appear any great Shew of Reaſon and Juſtice; that forty Pounds ſterling, in Moveables, or forty Shillings ſterling, in Rent, ſhould be eſteemed of greater Moment than a Man's Life, Honour, Liberty, and whole Eſtate: Which Eſtate may ſometimes amount to 500 *l.* ſterling *per Ann.* or more; for the Loſs of all which, the Party condemned cannot appeal from the Sentence of an inferior Court; where, it is poſſible, Faction, Intereſt, or Kindred may bear a great Sway: Whereas upon a leſs Matter he may.

But if the Sum be leſs than Forty Pounds, and that the Party finds himſelf aggrieved or wronged, in the ordinary Proceedings by an interlocutory Silence, before the definitive Sentence be given, he may become doleant to his Majeſty and Council, which is an eſpecial kind of Appeal uſed in *Normandy*, and no where elſe; but then, by the Cuſtom of the Iſland, he muſt within twenty four Hours conſign, or make Depoſit in the Bailiff's Hands, or his Clerks, one hundred Pounds, for a Caution that he ſhall proſecute his

Doleance

Doleance within a Year and a Day; in which, if he fails, or lets fall his Doleance, that Money is confiſcated to the Poor of the Pariſh where ſuch Doleant reſides.

THEIR local Cuſtoms conſtantly uſed among them, differing much in ſeveral Particulars from the Cuſtom of *Normandy*, it was thought fit about the twenty fourth Year of Queen *Elizabeth*, that ſome certain Perſon ſhould be appointed to compare and examine, in what Caſes and Particulars, their local Cuſtoms did diſagree, and in what they did agree with the Cuſtom of *Normandy*; and the Text, Commentaries, and Expoſitions, as they were publiſhed by *Terien*, being taken for the Ground of their Work, the whole Matter was performed; and an Account thereof being tranſmitted from them to the Lords of her Majeſty's Privy Council, was by their Lordſhips Order, dated *October* 27, 1583, ratified, and eſtabliſhed to be a Rule and Direction for their future Proceedings; and this is by them called the Approbation of Laws; yet not an abſolute Law to ſtand for the Future, without Alteration, but rather proviſionary, — the Queen reſerving for her, and her Succeſſors, to change, alter, add, diminiſh or correct, as they ſhould think fit, as may be ſeen in the Deed of that Ratification.

— But

—But either by the Negligence, Ignorance, or Willfulneſs of thoſe that were employed in this Service (as to Amendment of their Approbation Laws) it was ſo ill performed, that it did not at all anſwer the End intended; but the conſtant Uſe and Practice ſtill prevails, though, in many Caſes, very different from this Approbation, the Defects of which, appear'd ſoon after it was made, —— Sir *Thomas Leighton* being at that time Governor.

TOWARDS the Beginning of K. *James*'s Reign, there were many Complaints exhibited to the Lords of his Majeſty's Council, of ſeveral Abuſes committed in the Iſland; ſome by the Governor, ſome by the Bailiff and Jurats. —Some of theſe Complaints were from the Generality of the Inhabitants; ſome from particular Pariſhes; and, amongſt other Things, the Imperfections of this Approbation, juſt ſpoken to, were complained of. Whereupon Commiſſioners were ſent over, *viz.* Sir *Robert Gardiner* and one Dr *Huſſey*, with Power to hear and redreſs their Grievances, by ſuch Orders, as to them ſhould appear expedient and neceſſary to be made upon every particular; which they having performed, and made a Report to the Lords of the Council of their Tranſactions, which conſiſted moſtly in

the Regulation of the ſeveral Juriſdictions, Rules in ſeveral particular Caſes, and ſome Directions for the Time to come, relating to the diſtributive Juſtice; their Lordſhips, after ſome few Amendments made by them, did eſtabliſh by their Order of the 31ſt of *June* 1608, thoſe Orders, with the Amendments, to be for the future, a Part of the Law of that Iſland: So that their whole written Law does now conſiſt in theſe few Particulars, *viz.* The Cuſtoms of *Normandy*, with the Approbation Laws before mentioned.

The more antient Part of theſe Commiſſioners Orders, were,—Firſt, The Extent of the King's Revenues taken in the fifth of *Edward* III. in which, as well all the King's Rights and Prerogatives are ſet down, as the Duty of all Officers. Secondly, The Precept of Aſſize, which was a ſummary Account of their Laws and Cuſtoms, by way of Inquiſition taken the ſame Year, *viz.* 1331.

To theſe may be added, another Extent of the Crown Revenues, after the Manner of the former, taken the 24th of Queen *Elizabeth*. Theſe, and ſome Orders and Letters of the Lords of the Council, and Letters of Commiſſion, under the

the Great Seal of *England*, directed to remove Grievances, ſent from them (as before obſerved,) and upon other ſuch like Occaſions, make up their whole Body of written Laws.

THEIR Ordinances made at their Court of Chief Plaid, or at any other Time, are but proviſional Ordinances, which have not the Force of a Law; though they ſometimes, in fact, extend them too far.

FOR the Time and Manner of holding their Chief Plaid Court they are thus: — Three Times in a Year, *viz.* The *Monday* after St *Morus* (which is the 15th of *January*,) the *Monday* after *Eaſter*, and after the Feaſt of St *Michael*; at which Times the Bailiffs and Jurats being aſſembled, (and the Governor preſent, if he thinks fit,) — firſt, The Court is called over, and every one anſwering to his Name, riſes up, and makes his Obeiſance to the Governor, as repreſenting the King's Perſon there; then all, who hold any Lands, whether Fief or Bordages, by the Tenure of which they owe Suit and Service to the King's Court, are in like manner called, and pay their Attendance: After which, the King's Procurer is aſk'd, whether he has any thing to move, either in Behalf of the King or his People; and

upon Motion made by him, or any of the King's Council attending, old Ordinances are renewed and revived; or new ones made relating to the political Government of the People; and Fines impoſed on the Breakers of thoſe Rules or Orders ſo ſet.

At the Chief Plaid of *Chriſtmas*, the Peir is let out to farm, to him that offers moſt; and at the Chief Plaid of *Michaelmas*, the Rate of Corn Rents for the Year fully paſt is ſet; according to which Rate, he to whom any Rent is due, ſhall recover his Arrears. But the Price that is ſet for Corn Rent, for that Year fully paſt, ought to be according as Corn has been commonly ſold, pay'd, and received the two Parts of three for that Year.

According to the Commiſſioners Order, who were ſent over by King *James* I. for the Payment of chief Rents, the King's Receiver, and alſo the Provoſts or Gatherers of private Mens Fiefs, cauſe to be publiſhed at *Eaſter*, in the Market, or at the Church Doors, that upon a certain Day, and in ſuch a Place, all who owe chief Rents, ſhould come and pay them in Wheat; or, that they ſhall pay ſo much Money (which commonly exceeds the Price current, by about ten or twenty Sols,

Sols, by the Quarter;) after which Day is expired, the Receiver and Gatherers, may conſtrain the Debtors to pay in Money after the Rate by them ſet upon the Wheat; and that till *Michaelmas* next Chief Plaid, when the Court ſetteth the Price for all Rents; and then the ſaid Receivers may not receive more than according to ſuch Rates, ſet by the Court for that Year.

On theſe three Days of holding their Chief Plaids, the Governor, at his own Choice, gives a Dinner, or ſome ſmall Fine in Money to each of them; but the Bordiers have commonly five Sols each, inſtead of a Dinner. Such Dinner is to entertain the Bailiff, Jurats, and all the King's Officers belonging to that Court: All that Week, for the King's particular Fiefs or Manors, Courts are kept ſo, for Manors held of the Crown by private Perſons.

There are but three Courts (beſides the Royal Court) which have any certain and ſet Time to keep this Week of Chief Plaid, *viz.* The Court of *St. Michael*, in the King's Hands, on the *Mondays*. 2. The Court *du Conte*, on the *Wedneſdays*. 3. The Court of *Sauſmares*, on the *Thurſdays*; where the Tenants, who by Tenure owe Suit and Service, are to be pre-

ſent and anſwer, tho' not cited by the Serjeant of the Fief; and that upon Pain of having Seizure of their Lands, if they abſent themſelves three ſeveral Times, one after the other, upon ſuch Days. As for the Courts of ſmaller or under Fiefs, they are held when the Proprietor of the Fief requires it. And then alſo, at certain Places where thoſe Courts are uſed to be kept, the Tenants owe their Appearance, but that but once a Year, and being regularly ſummoned to it (as at Courts Leet and Baron, in *England*) otherwiſe they are not bound to appear. Neither is there any Action or Pleading in theſe ſmall Courts; they are only kept to oblige the Tenants of thoſe Fiefs to their Appearance, and get an Admittance of five Sols of the new Tenants, and to cauſe a new Provoſt to be ſworn, for the gathering of the chief Rents of the laſt Year. But in the three former Courts there is Pleadings, conferring Rights, and perſonal Actions, between the Tenants, or brought by others againſt them in firſt Inſtance. But there is no diſtraining of Goods, or Arreſt given upon thoſe perſonal Actions, and the Fine they can ſet is but five Sols.

The next Week after their Courts Plaid, is for executing Exploits, that is to ſay,

ſay, for diſtraining of moveable Goods or Chattels; which is but the Formality, and mere Shadow of what was practiſed of old among them, in ſuch Caſes, wherein the Creditor, to whom any Rents were, by any Man, due upon his Houſe or Land.—When the Debtor's Serjeant went to the ſaid Houſe or Land, where, if he found any moveable Goods, to the Value of the Debt, the ſaid Serjeant (or Officer) did diſtrain the ſame, and deliver them to the Creditor, with Signification or Notice given by the Serjeant to the Debtor, to ſee them appraiſed; and at laſt ſold for his Debt, at the next Market-day. Which was accordingly done, if the Debt was not diſcharged and paid before. Which Proceeding did ſhorten Proceſs, and avoid great Loſs. But now the Debtor does always refuſe, and the Serjeant or Creditor do not urge to have Goods, tho' they demand them in Form: Of which Refuſal, upon the Serjeant's Report to the Court, the Debtor is admitted to plead what he pleaſes; which Proceeding introduces a Multiplicity of Proceſſes in the Iſland.

At this Court alſo they adjourn or ſummons ſuch Perſon or Perſons, who have Actions againſt others, to appear to his Action the Term following, which is the

the very next Week after that. — On the *Monday* of which the *Mobilairy* Courts are held for the Low Pariſhes; *viz. St. Peter's Port*, *St. Sampſon's*, the *Vale*, and the *Caſtle* Pariſhes. In which Court, Pleas are held for Moveables or Chattels.—*Tueſday* is the Court of *Namps*, ſo called from *Namier*, an old *French* Word, which ſignifies to diſtrain. In theſe Courts *des Namps* nothing is to be pleaded but authentic Deeds under Seal; and the Diſtreſs taken is to be left upon the Fief.

WEDNESDAY, and likewiſe *Saturday*, whether in Term or out of Term, are Days for the extraordinary Courts, wherein criminal and ſubventitional Cauſes are judged.

THE ſecond *Monday* in the Term, the *Mobilaire* Courts are held for the upper Pariſhes; *viz. St. Savieurs*, *St. Peter du Bois*, the *Forreſt*, *Torteval*, *St. Andrew*, and *St. Martin*.

THE Day after, the Courts of *Heritage* are held; the Courts of *Namps* and Courts of *Heritage* are held each three Times in every Term, and no oftener: But the *Mobilaire* Courts are held oftener, if Occaſion requires it.

THE

THE Courts of *Heritage* hold Plea of Confeſſion of Rents denied, or Deliverance of Lands detained; of Renunciation of Inheritance; and of Retreats by Lineal Deſcent.

THERE are two Kinds of Renunciations, one to Moveables and Inheritance together, which is commonly called Ceſſion; and the other to Inheritance only.

CESSION is commonly made by the Debtor in the *Mobilaire* Courts; and then, as to his Inheritance, he commonly binds himſelf to corroborate the ſaid Ceſſion, in the next Court of Inheritance; and, if he fail to perform it after three ſeveral Adjournments, the King's Provoſt does corroborate the ſaid Ceſſion, as to the Debtor's Heritage for him, by Courſe of Law.

THIS Ceſſion in moveable Courts is not always eſteemed Bankrupt (which by the Laws of *Guernſey* carries Infamy with it, and may be liable, in ſome Caſes, to perpetual Impriſonment;) but if Poverty befalls the Debtor, by Fire, Shipwreck, Thieves, Sickneſs, *&c.* then, upon his Ceſſion of his whole Eſtate, he is free from

from Impriſonment. In which Caſe he muſt firſt uſe the Ceremony of the Girdle (which will be preſently explained,) and it was formerly a Cuſtom on ſuch Occaſions, for the Debtor to wear a green Cap, that his Condition might be known by ſuch Diſtinction. Secondly, He muſt ſwear, that he will deliver all his Moveables (his Cloathes, Bed, and Arms excepted) to his Creditors. Thirdly, That if *God* ſo enable him, that hereafter he ſhall have wherewithal to pay his juſt Debts, he will ſo do. — But at preſent moſt Part of theſe Particulars are out of practice.

As to Renunciation of Inheritance, at the Courts of *Heritage*, altho' the Debtor, in all Bills of Sale, or taking of Inheritance to rent, doth bind himſelf, and his Heirs upon the Warrant of all their moveable Goods, yet it is in the Creditor's Choice, to diſtrain the Inheritance alone, and not to meddle with the Moveables; and firſt to ſeize by the Provoſt the ſaid Inheritance, and then to adjourn three ſeveral Times the Debtor to the Court of *Heritage*, to make himſelf there Tenant of the *Heritage* ſeized, and pay the Creditors the Sum, for which the Seizure is made, or renounce to his Heritage. And if he does appear to make himſelf Tenant,

Tenant, he muſt do it within the next Court of *Heritage*, or renounce.

BUT on his Non-appearance, the King's Provoſt, by Courſe of Law, becometh Party for him, and after three or four Delays, muſt either pay the Creditor with the Debtor's Money, or renounce to his Inheritance; but, in this Caſe, the Creditor has no Attainder upon the Debtor's Moveables or Goods for the ſame Debt.

THIS kind of Renunciation, is much the ſame Thing, as if a Man ſhould declare himſelf a Bankrupt; and is practiſed there, by ſuch as find their Eſtates ſo incumbered, as, that the Debts upon it exceed the Value; in which Caſe, they come into open Court, and declare their Renunciation, by pulling off their Girdle, and laying it down on the Table.

RETREATS are in ſome ſort taken from the Law of *Moſes*, when any Man ſells his Inheritance, the next of Kindred, (and if he refuſes or neglects to claim his Right by the Court of Heritage) the next after him again, to the ſeventh Degree, may retrieve the Inheritance from the Purchaſer, paying him down ſo much as he has, *bonâ fide*, paid for it, within ten Years, and not after;

after; but if the Inheritance be ſold, or let to rent, by Decree of Juſtice (which is commonly done at the Debtor's Requeſt, for the Payment of his Debts upon his incumbered Eſtate) then there is but a Year and a Day for the ſaid Retraits.

And this is not only in Caſe of Sale, but in ſome Caſes, even, where Houſes or Lands are given to rent, (as they call it) which is more uſual among them than Sales. It is thus, a Man takes ſuch a Houſe or Piece of Land of another, and for it obliges all his own Eſtates, for the Payment of ſo many Quarters of Wheat as ſhall be agreed upon, for ever to him and his Heirs; or to other Men, in Diſcharge to that Man, and his Heirs, by whom the ſaid Rents were all, or Part of them due, upon the Inheritance then let out to rent. — Wheat is commonly the Species, in which moſt Rents are reſerved and payable, but not always ſo, ſome being paid in Money, ſome in Barley, Oats, Kine, Capons, Chicken, Geeſe, Loaves, Milk, Cream, Garland of Roſes, *&c.*

Whether the Houſe be afterwards burnt, pulled down, or any other Way ruined; or the Lands left waſte, as long as he that hath taken the ſame to rent, doth well and truly pay the yearly Rent; other-

otherwiſe, he who let them out to rent, or his Heirs, may exploit upon, and ſeize them for the Arrears, and have an Action againſt the Owner by the Court of Inheritance, to make him renounce or pay what is due.

Besides, if he who has taken ſuch Houſe or Land to rent, proves a notorious ill Huſband, and hath little of his own, beſides for Warrants, cutting down Trees, and leaving that Inheritance waſte and in Decay; the Man who let the ſame to rent, may have an Action, rather criminal than civil, againſt ſuch a Man, as a fraudulent Perſon, and a Bankrupt, according to divers Orders of that Court practiſed in ſuch Caſes. In two Caſes, Houſes or Lands thus given to rent, may be retreated, *viz.* One where the Value of five Sols, or more, is given by way of Fine, or Money paid down at firſt in Hand, whether it be ſo expreſſed in the Deed, or can be otherwiſe proved. Secondly, Where the Rent reſerved is leſs than the full Value of the Inheritance, by more than one third Part, according to the Judgment of the Dozeuers of the Pariſh, who in ſuch Caſes are allowed to be the proper Judges of the Value.

WHETHER for Sale of Land or Houſes, or given to rent (agreeable to their Term as before mentioned) the Granter does not ſign or ſeal the Deed himſelf, but goes before two, or more, of the Jurats, and to them makes an Acknowledgment, that it is his Deed, it is equally valid—Whereupon they ſign it, and having ſo done, at the next Seal Day, or whenever the Bailiff, in whoſe Cuſtody the Seal is, pleaſes, it may be ſealed and regiſtered.

THE like may be done for Obligations for the Payment of Money, but they often in that Caſe take Bond of the Party, but very rarely call Witneſſes to Bond or Leaſe, or whatever elſe they take under any Man's Hands.

HERE, then, may very naturally be remarked, their great Fidelity and Confidence one among another; and how repugnant to the Cuſtoms of moſt of their Neighbours. —Witneſs the voluminous Conveyances on every (almoſt trivial) Occaſion; the infinite cautionary Circumſtances of Witneſſes Hands, and Seals; the numberleſs Proviſions of Security to make a Contract firm and binding; and all little enough to prevent Subornation and Fraud: So ſordid are many People, that

that their Faith is not ſo dear to them as their Profits.

How ſhameful a Confeſſion is alſo this of the Deceit and Wickedneſs of Mankind; that we can neither truſt, nor be truſted, without Witneſſes and Securities! Sometimes double in Value to the Obligation received.

The Bailiff, or his Lieutenant (for that Office is commonly executed by Deputy) with two Jurats make a Court, and may try Cauſes; but then there will lie an Appeal, to a greater Number than was at preſent at firſt Hearing; and ſo there may be an Appeal again to full Judgment, which is ſeven Jurats, beſides the Lieutenant or the Bailiff himſelf.

Such Appeal muſt be followed, and proſecuted by the Appellant, within forty Days, upon Pain of Deſertion: But in an Appeal to full Judgment, there is a Year and a Day allowed for the Proſecution. — But if the Court *ex Officio*, put any thing by way of Difficulty, to full Judgment, the Parties have three Years to proſecute the ſame; within which Terms of forty Days, a Year and a Day, and three Years reſpectively, the Defendant as well as the Appellant, may enter an

Action, and follow their Right upon the ſaid Appeal.

Not only the Bailiff, his Lieutenant, or a Jurat, who is any way intereſted or concerned in any Cauſe; but where he is of kin to either of the Parties, the other may recuſe him, (as they call it) which is, refuſe to bring his Cauſe before ſuch Jurats, who, if the Recuſation be found reaſonable, is not to judge of that Cauſe.

This Practice is grounded upon the Cuſtom of *Normandy*, which admits of ſuch Exceptions as theſe to be taken, (and, indeed, with great Juſtice and Propriety) againſt a Witneſs: And then ſays, a leſs Exception may ſerve to refuſe a Judge than a Witneſs, becauſe other Judges may be found, but, it may be, no other Witneſſes.

All Eſtates in the Iſland deſcend according as the Uſe and Cuſtom has, Time out of Mind, been; and no Man can by Will or Deed, give or diſpoſe of his Eſtate to any of his Children, in particular, to the Prejudice of his other Children; but otherwiſe, and by their common Conſent, he may do it. As in Conſideration of any eſpecial Services, or to prefer

fer them in Marriage, he may give, or advance to any of them proportionably, ſo much as their Share of their Inheritance would come to after his Death.

And, firſt, the Widow has her own Eſtate, and one third, as her Dowry for Life, of what her Huſband's Father, Mother's Grandfather, Grandmother, or other Anceſtor in direct Line was poſſeſſed of at the Day of her Marriage with the Deceaſed. That is to ſay, ſo much as would have from them deſcended to the Huſband, if they had died at that Day. — Secondly, Of all his Inheritance deſcending to him during that Marriage, from any Kindred of a collateral Line. — Thirdly, Of all Purchaſes made by the Huſband, during that Marriage, or what has come to him, by Gift, from any Perſon whatſoever.

The Sons are to have two thirds, and the Daughters one third; but if there be ſo many Sons and ſo few Daughters, that a Daughter's Part, according to that Proportion, comes to be more than a Son's, then the Eſtate is ſo to be parted, that no Daughter may have more than a Son. And that it may the better be done, the eldeſt Son, in that Caſe, loſes his Vingtieſm or Proportion, which elſe

he ſhould have, over and above the Portions of the other Sons.

THE Vingtieſm, is rather an Advantage of the eldeſt Son upon the Daughters (who are to have no Share in it) than upon the other Sons; for after the Eſtates are thus valued at a low Rate, as bare Ground, that Value is not to be put in Bill, if there be Daughters, but muſt be ſhared equally amongſt the Sons. All the Advantages of the eldeſt Son, above his Brethren, conſiſting in the Buildings, Trees, Orchards, and other Improvements, are nothing accounted nor regarded, but barely Land as Land, and perſonal Effects.

WHEN the eldeſt Son takes his Proportion, he is to begin in what Part of the Eſtate he pleaſes, but wherever he begins he muſt go on, without croſſing any Street or Highway: Beſides this, the eldeſt Son claims a Chefmois, that is, the beſt Houſe he thinks fit to chuſe, provided it be not within the Barriers of the Town of *St. Peter's Port.* — Both Lands and Houſe, are to be valued as bare Ground only; and whatever Building is upon them, is not to be accounted for; but being valued by the Dozeuers of the Pariſh only as bare Ground, thev are ſo

to

to be eſtimated, and come into the Bill of Partage.

THE eldeſt Son is to give an Evidence, or Particular, of the whole Eſtate; and the Daughters, or elſe the youngeſt Son, are to make the Bills of Partage; the reſt of the Sons chuſe by Seniority; but there being no Seniority conſidered amongſt Daughters, they caſt Lots for their Parts.

THE Fief Noble goes directly to the Eldeſt, unleſs he will put it in Partage with the reſt; but if he takes the Fief Noble, and leaves only the reſt to be parted, then if any of the other Brothers die without Iſſue, his Eſtate ſhall be parted amongſt the reſt of the younger Brothers, and the Eldeſt ſhall not come in for a Share with them.

IF the Fief Noble comes to be divided amongſt Daughters, it incloſes its Nobility; but if, by Deſcent or Purchaſe, it comes any Way into one Hand again, it reſumes its Nobility.

IN Collateral Degrees, the Siſters have no Share of Patrimonial Eſtates, — the neareſt takes Place firſt; the Brother or Siſter before the Nephew or Neice; but if the Siſter be dead, her Children cannot

cannot claim: — Repreſentation of Sex has Place, but not of Degree, and the Partage in Collateral Degrees, is *per Stirpes, non per Capita.*

THIS is ſo in Eſtates of Inheritance, purchaſed, but not in patrimonial Eſtates, wherein the Repreſentation, both of the Sex and Degree, upwards and downwards, takes Place, *ad infinitum.*

THE Partage of patrimonial Eſtates ought to be *per Stirpes*, and *non per Capita*, as in Eſtates of Purchaſe. For Inſtance, *Thomas* has three Sons, *Peter*, *John*, and *James*; and two Daughters, *Anne* and *Mary*. — *Thomas* dies, leaves his Inheritance, as Patrimony, to his Sons and Daughters. — *Peter* beſides purchaſes ſome other Inheritance, dies, and leaves no Iſſue. — *John* has a Son *Andrew*, and *James* a Son *Simon*. — *Simon* has two Sons, *Joſeph* and *Nicholas*. — *John* and *James* dye, and *Simon*; and then *Peter* dyeth alſo.

AFTER them *Andrew*, *Joſeph*, and *Nicholas* ſhall inherit the patrimonial Eſtate of *Peter*, to be divided and ſhared *per Stirpes*. But *Anne* and *Mary*, Siſters of *Peter*, ſhall inherit his purchaſed Eſtate, to be ſhared *per Capita.*

IT

It has been always the Policy of the Crown of *England*, to allow very large Privileges and Immunities to the People of theſe Iſlands; making it their greateſt Intereſt, to depend on *England*: And that has always been taken for a ſurer Tye, than all the Oaths of Allegiance that could be thought of; and ſo it has proved; of which, I ſhall more fully explain as I proceed farther.

The firſt Charter to be found is in King *John*'s Time, preſently after he had loſt *Normandy*; the Privileges have ſince been frequently renewed, and enlarged. Scarce any King's Reign has paſſed without a new Charter to them.

King *Charles* II. notwithſtanding the great Guilt that lay upon ſome of them, for their Activeneſs in the Rebellion, againſt his Father *Charles* I. and himſelf; yet increaſed, rather than any way diminiſhed, their Privileges. Which he confirmed by his Letters Patent, bearing Date at *Weſtminſter*, the 11th Day of *February*, in the 20th Year of his Reign; wherein after ſuch Recital as has been in former Charters, of the good Service done by the Inhabitants of the Iſland of *Guernſey*, in regaining and keeping of *Montorgueil Caſtle*, in the

the Iſle of *Jerſey*, his Majeſty does grant to the Bailiff and Jurats, and the reſt of the Inhabitants of the Iſlands of *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, *Alderny*, and their Succeſſors, free Trade in all the Ports of *England*, and in all other Parts of his Majeſty's Dominions, as well beyond, as on this Side the Sea, without Payment of any Cuſtom, Toll, or Duty whatever.

That all Merchants, as well Enemies as Friends, may come, as well in time of War as in Time of Peace, within as far Diſtance as a Man can ſee from the Iſland, without any Moleſtation or Reſtraint upon their Perſons, Ships, or Goods; which Privilege, Time out of Mind, they have enjoyed.

He grants to them the judging of all Actions, real, perſonal, or mixed, ariſing within the ſaid Iſle, (except in Caſes reſerved) without being impleaded, or required to anſwer in any other Court whatſoever out of the Iſland.

That no Toll nor Cuſtom ſhall be paid for any Goods, of the Growth or Manufacture of the Iſland brought into *England*.

To the Rector of *St Peter's Port*, he grants

grants ſixty Quarters of Wheat Rent, out of the Revenue, towards his Maintenance. He grants to the Bailiff, Jurats, *&c.* towards the Structures, and upholding of the Peir, all ſuch Duties called Petit Cuſtoms, as were formerly granted by Queen *Elizabeth*. He grants them, likewiſe, all the Profits of the publick Weights and Meaſures; paying for the ſame into the Receipt of his Majeſty's Revenue 20 Shillings ſterling *per Ann.*

He confirms all former Grants of Maintenance for Miniſters, Schools, and Hoſpitals, to be employed to the Uſes intended.

He grants Leave of ſhipping and tranſporting, yearly, for the Uſe of *Caſtle Cornet*, 100 Hogſheads of Beer, or 4 Quarter of Malt, for each Hogſhead, and a proportionable Quantity of Hops; 12 Beefs, 600 Flitches of Bacon, 1200 Pounds of Butter, 20 hundred Weight of Cheeſe, 300 of Stockfiſh, 300 Pounds of Tallow, 20 Dichers of Leather, and Wood and Coals whatever Quantity may be reaſonably required.

For the Iſland 500 Hogſheads of Beer, 150 Dichers of Leather, 25 Dozen of Calf-ſkins, Wood and Coal whatever Quantity

Quantity ſhall be reaſonably required; 500 Todds of Wool, without Payment of any Duty for the ſame; and of all other Goods (Ammunition only excepted) ſo much as the Duty ſhall amount to 150*l.* ſterling, free from all Duty whatever: And thoſe Goods to be exported from *London*, *Southampton*, *Weymouth*, *Pool*, *Lime*, or *Plymouth*. In an Act 12 *Car.* II. *Cap.* 32, there was 1000 Todds of Wooll allowed for *Guernſey*; 100 for *Jerſey*, and 200 for *Alderny*.

We have almoſt from the Conqueſt down to this Time, (but particularly from the 11th of *Henry* I. in the Year 1111, when the Governor was called Lord of the Iſland) Accounts of a conſtant Succeſſion of Governors, in every King's Reign. Sometimes they had a certain Salary; as at the Time when the Precept of Aſſize was made 1331.

Some have held all the King's Revenue there in Fee-farm, paying an annual Rent, as did *Richard* Lord *Grey*, of *Codnor*, in 1226, at the Rent of 400 Marks. *Humphry* Duke of *Glouceſter*, Brother to *Henry* V. held the Iſland of *Guernſey* in 1439 to his own proper Uſe, as Lord Proprietor thereof; as appears by an original Deed, under the Seal of that Time.

Mr

MR *Seldon* cites a Manuſcript out of Sir *Robert Cotton*'s Library, which ſays, that *Henry Beauchamp* Duke of *Warwick*, who died in 1446, was King of the Iſles of *Wight*, *Jerſey* and *Guernſey*.

IT has been uſual for all Governors to have the King's whole Revenue there granted to them, by Patent, to their own Uſe; without being accountable for it to the Exchequer.

AT their Entrance upon the Government, they are publickly ſworn to keep the Iſland for the King's Service, to the uttermoſt of their Power: To take Care to keep the People to their Duty, and true Allegiance to the King; and maintain their antient Privileges and Liberties. This was the Form of Oath, at the Time of the Precept of Aſſize, and is the Subſtance of the Oath ſtill taken.

THE late Patents to Governors have run thus, to execute the Office of Governor by themſelves, or their ſufficient Deputy or Deputies; and they have uſed to make Deputies of their own; which Deputies are likewiſe ſworn. But ſince the latter End of the Reign of K. *Charles* II. ſuch Deputies, or Lieutenant-Governors, are appointed under Commiſſion of the Crown, by his Majeſty's Patent.

If both the Governor and the Lieutenant-Governor have Occaſion to be abſent, the Governor commiſſionates a Deputy; he likewiſe gives his Commiſſion to all Officers of the Militia.

The Governor has granted him by his Patent, the Right of Patronage, and preſenting to the Deanery; and all Rectories and Schools in the Iſland to him belongs, as ſay their Approbation Laws; and the firſt Fruits of all the Rectories: But he takes no Benefit of it, but leaves it all to the Church.

He had always, of Right, diſpoſed of the Offices of Bailiff, Procurer, Comptroller, Greffier, and King's Serjeant; and may ſuſpend them from the Execution of their Office, (at leaſt, all but the Bailiff) but 'tis not uſual to diſplace any of them, without ſome Crime or Miſdemeanour in their Office proved againſt them.

King *Charles* II. ſome few Years before his Death, declared his Pleaſure, that he would for the future diſpoſe himſelf of the Deanery, the Offices of Bailiff, Procurer, and Comptroller; and ſuch Appointments has ſince that Time ſo continued. But the Governor is highly concerned, that theſe Places ſhould be always executed by Perſons

Perſons able and fit for the Execution of them. Since if it be not ſo, he may, by the Default of ſome of theſe Officers, loſe much of his Profits, as well as his Majeſty of his conſtant Revenues; which, for the Time being, the Governor receives.

It is proper and eſſential to all Officers of the royal Courts, not to be ſuſpended or diſplaced from their Offices, without good and ſufficient Cauſe; but is otherwiſe in the Officers of other Juriſdictions, which may be diſplaced at Will. — Nevertheleſs if a Seneſchal, or other Officer of ſuch Juriſdiction, be diſplaced out of Spleen and Malice, for a Cauſe unjuſt or unreaſonable, by the Lord of the Fief, that Officer ought to be reſtored to his Place, tho' againſt the Lord's Will, by the Judge royal. This ſpeaks of Offices bought, or granted upon valuable Conſideration, as Service perform'd, Marrriage, *&c.* but not generally of all.

No publick Money is to be raiſed in the Iſland, upon any Pretence whatever, without the Conſent and Allowance of the Governor firſt had and obtained; which I ſhall more fully explain, in taking Notice of the *Convention of their States.*

SEVERAL Proportions of Proviſions were antiently taken by the Governor, for his Houſehold Expences, paying ſuch a certain Rate for them, but this has been long ſince laid aſide: But he has ſtill the Choice, and Pre-emption of all Proviſions, in the Market; and is to be firſt ſerved with any Proviſions, or other Commodities he has Occaſion for, which are brought into the Iſland by any Merchants to be ſold; paying for them the Rate that they are ſold for to others.

THE Wooll allowed by Act of Parliament for the Uſe of the Iſland is to be diſtributed by Licences to the Merchants by the Governor; who allows to each Man his Proportion, according as he judges convenient; and in the ſame Manner, all other Proviſions and Commodities allowed by the Charter to be tranſported yearly out of *England*, are by the Governor diſtributed by Licence, amongſt the Inhabitants; and it has been the Cuſtom for them to give Certificates for ſuch Goods, of the Growth or Manufacture of the Iſland, as are imported into *England*: Upon which Licence and Certificate the reſpective Goods paſs free from *England* thither, and from thence to *England*, without paying any Cuſtoms or Duties whatever.

THE

THE Bailiff is the chief Judge of the Court; without him or his Lieutenant no Court can be held.

IN Caſe of their ſudden Death, or Sickneſs, or any other neceſſary Impediment, the Court makes a Delegate of one of their own Body, which they call Judge Delegue. It is uſually the moſt antient of the Court, but this is never done but in Caſes of Neceſſity, where there is an unavoidable Impediment to hinder the Bailiff or his Lieutenant both from being preſent, and ſome urgent Matter to be diſpatched: For elſe, they rather in ordinary Caſes defer the ſitting of the Court, 'till they can come.

THE Bailiff or his Lieutenant have the Cuſtody of the Seals of the Iſland: The Jurats, without the Bailiff or his Lieutenant be preſent, cannot examine Witneſſes upon Oath in any criminal Cauſe, nor commit any Offender to Priſon. On the other hand, the Bailiff cannot judge or determine any Cauſe, but according to the Majority of Opinions of the Jurats preſent.

SUCH an exact Equilibrium, or Balance of Authority is preſerved among theſe

Iſlands, in the Adminiſtration of their Affairs on all Occaſions; and ſo tenacious are they in their Care, that no Part of Power delegated to their Magiſtrates, ſhall ever be capable of too great a Preponderance one way or another, to the Prejudice or Delay of publick Juſtice.

THESE Particulars being given of what belongs to the Governor, Bailiff, and Jurats, the Duties and Rights of all other Officers may be beſt underſtood from the following Account.

THE Lieutenant, Governor who in the Extent of *Edward* III. is called Conſtable, was at that Time choſen by the Governors, with ſome ſmall Fees belonging to his Place.

THE Receiver is appointed by the Governor, and is a ſworn Officer to keep an Account of all the King's Revenues, and of all Forfeitures to the King; and his Books have, in ſome Sort, the Authority of a Record. His Salary, for many Years paſt, has been ſettled at fifty Pounds ſterling *per Annum*.

THE Officers may, properly enough, be divided into three Sorts; thoſe of the Caſtle,

Caſtle, thoſe of each Pariſh, and thoſe of the Courts of Juſtice.

And firſt, of thoſe of the Caſtle.

The Porter of the Caſtle is Keeper of the Priſon: He is choſen and appointed by the Governor; but gives Security to the Bailiff and Jurats, for the ſafe Cuſtody of all Priſoners committed to his Charge. He has Fees of Priſoners, and out of every Stranger's Veſſel that comes laden with Wine, Salt, or Earthenware, he has a ſmall Fee of Cuſtom paid him; and his Salary is about three Shillings *per* Week.

Two Boatmen are next mentioned; then the Gayabe, or Watchman, who is to ſtand all day on the Dungeon, and when he ſees any Ship coming near the Iſland, to ſtrike two Strokes on a large Bell; and when a Boat is coming towards the Caſtle, he is to ſtrike once. — This is ſtill performed by a Centinel.

There formerly uſed always to be in *Caſtle Cornet* fourteen Soldiers in Time of Peace, beſides the Lieutenant, the Marſhal, the Porter, the Sutler, the Maſter Gunner, the Smith, the Carpenter, the Boatmen, and the Watchman. And in Time

Time of War, twenty-eight. Beſides the Governor may command out of the Iſland ſuch Number of the ableſt and moſt expert Soldiers, he ſhall think fit to make choice of; who are to have a Soldier's Coat given them every Year, and are to ſerve whenever they ſhall be required.

THESE Soldiers were called the Caſtle Retinue, and were bound to repair thither whenever called upon; eſpecially upon any Alarm. But for many Years paſt, by Omiſſion or otherwiſe, that Retinue of Soldiers, and Coats allowed them, are out of Practice; and the Caſtle is principally garriſon'd and defended by Soldiers ſent over from *England*.

FOR Services to be done, it was likewiſe the Cuſtom, for all ſuch as had Carts or Boats, two Days in the Year to carry Stone, Sand, or other Materials for the Building or Repairs wanting to the Caſtle, whenever they ſhould be required.

SUCH as were able to keep Carts, and did not ſo attend, were obliged to find others; and ſuch as were not able to keep any, were obliged to work themſelves.—All Strangers were likewiſe obliged, on proper Notice, to work four Days.

WHENEVER

WHENEVER the Governor had Occaſion to go into any Part of the Iſland, for his Majeſty's Service, he might preſs ſuch Horſes for his Uſe as he had Occaſion for. The Proviſions to be furniſhed for the Governor's Uſe on ſuch Emergencies are laid aſide; but the Power, as above, the Governor ſtill retains.

PARISH Officers are, *viz.* The Captains of each Pariſh are appointed by the Governor, and are to command and exerciſe thoſe of their Company, and to take Charge of the Guns and Ammunition belonging to their Pariſh; and to ſee that the Breaſt-works, within their Precincts, are properly kept up; and as there ſhall be Occaſion for any of theſe Services, are to command the Conſtables and Vintonniers of their Pariſh.

THE Conſtables are to ſee the King's Peace kept, and ſhall bring ſuch as ſhall break it before the Court of Juſtice. They are to ſet the Watch at Night (particularly in Times of War) and give out the Word, as they are appointed by the Captain of the Pariſh.

THE Conſtable, when required, is to make Search for ſtolen Goods; to take an Account of all Stangers that come; and

to ſee them lodged: To receive from the Vintonniers all Taxes raiſed by Order.

He is to viſit all Taverns, and to taſte the Wine, Cyder or Beer, which if he judge not to be good and wholeſome Drink, he is to ſee it deſtroy'd: His Fee was a Quart out of every Hogſhead ſold by Retale. — He is to take Care that none go wandering about begging; and when he finds any ſuch, if Strangers, he is to ſend them out of the Iſland by the firſt Ship; if Inhabitants, they are to be put on Work upon the Pariſh Account: The Conſtable is alſo to viſit the Bakers, and to ſee that their Bread be of ſuch Weight, as by Law, it ought to be.

They formerly, likewiſe, took the Voices of all the Inhabitants of their Pariſh, for the Election of a Jurat; but it is now out of Uſe; nor do they receive the Duties of the Pier, as they formerly uſed to do.

Every Pariſh is divided into ſo many Vintains; out of every Vintain, one Man is to take his Turn to ſerve for the Year as Vintonnier: Antiently, every twenty Families made a Vintain, but the Numbers are altered.

THEY were, and ought to be, but twelve to every Pariſh, but ſeveral Pariſhes have increaſed that Number.

THE Vintonniers are to collect Public Taxes, and to pay the Money into the Hands of the Conſtables. They are to warn all Men within their Vintain to be at their Arms when they ſhall be required, either for Muſter, exerciſing, or to watch; and likewiſe, when they are required to repair either the Breaſt-works or Highways: And they may diſtrain the Goods of any that make Default; and if the Vintonnier neglect his Duty, the Conſtable may ſet another Man to do it, at the Coſt of him that neglects: If any Difference ariſe between them, it is to be decided by the Captain of the Pariſh.

THEY are to take Care alſo, that the Highways be kept clean; that is, of the Town Streets only; eſpecially upon ſome extraordinary Occaſion, when the Streets are to be kept clean upon the Vintonnier's Warning, by order from the Conſtable: But as for the Highways, elſewhere, the Viſitation and Repairs of them is committed to the Care of the Dozeuers of the reſpective Pariſhes, who yearly ought to ſee, that the public Highways, over the Iſland, are kept in good Repair, and cauſe

Amerce-

Amercements to be ſet upon thoſe who neglect the Reparation of the ſame; and upon the Dozeuer's Neglect of that Duty, the Bailiff and Jurats themſelves, have undertaken that Work, two by two, in each Pariſh. So careful and exact are they in the Repairs of their publick Roads, (which, however, are naturally none of the beſt) for the Safety, as well as Eaſe and Diſpatch of thoſe who travel about the Iſland. An Example well worthy the like Regard, in every other Iſland, Province, or Kingdom throughout the Univerſe; in Order to keep and maintain all ſuch Roads as have Communication from one City or Place to another, in good and paſſable Condition.

THE Dozeuers are Officers which Time out of Mind, have been in each Pariſh choſen out of the moſt ſubſtantial Men in the Pariſh, and muſt have previouſly ſerved Conſtable: And as any one dies, another is to be choſe in his Room, and ſworn by the Bailiff and Jurats.

THEIR Office is to aſſeſs all Taxes, laid by Authority, and to deliver a Copy of their Aſſeſſment to the Conſtable.

To their Office it alſo belongs to meaſure any of the King's Fiefs, and to make Enquiry

Enquiry after the Names of the Tenants, who owe any chief Rents to thoſe Fiefs, when by Length of Time, and divers Changes of Tenants Names, there happens any Difficulty in the Matter.

THE ſame they are to do for any private Perſons that have Lands or Manors, within their Pariſh; and they are to decide all Differences concerning Metes and Bounds; for all which they have a ſmall Fee by the Acre; and are to have their Charges defrayed, while they are employed on theſe Accounts.

OFFICERS *of the* COURTS *of* JUSTICE *are as follows:*

FIRST, the King's Provoſt is an Officer choſen by the People, as the Jurats are: He makes all Arreſts of Perſons or Goods, and gives Seizure and Poſſeſſion as he ſhall be ordered by the Court. By their Appointment he brings all Criminals before them to be tried, and takes Care to ſee all the Sentences of the Court executed upon them.

THE Clerk of the Court, or Greffier, draws up and enters all the Acts, Orders, Judgments, or Sentences of the Court, and keeps the Records of all Sorts; Re-

giſters all Bargains and Sales of Land or Rents, and gives Copies under his Signature, when required, of all ſuch Matters as are to be found upon the Regiſter. And it is not above two hundred and ſixty Years that ſuch a Regiſter has been kept.

At preſent theſe Officers have no ſettled Revenue, but their Fees ariſe not only from pleading Cauſes for the Inhabitants, jointly with other Advocates; but they alſo have an excluſive Right to plead all criminal Cauſes between Party and Party; ſuch as, for Battery, Defamation, *&c.*

Among other Parts of his Duty, it is one of the chiefeſt of the Provoſt, that after a Man is called at the Plea of Heritage to renounce to his Inheritance, and for three ſeveral Times hath not appeared in Court; then the Provoſt becomes Party for the Defendant, and anſwers the Plea for him, during three or four Times, and either makes himſelf Tenant for the Defendant, and pays the Plaintiff, or renounces to the Defendants Inheritance: And ſometimes upon Actions in the Court, for Deliverance of Lands or Rents, he holdeth View of Titles, or of the Ground in Controverſy.

THESE Regiſters are of three Sorts: Firſt of Acts of the Court. In Times of old there was no ſuch Books of Regiſters, but the Cauſes or Actions being delivered by the Plaintiff or his Advocate, to the Bailiff or his Lieutenant, in great Rolls. After the Cauſes were adjudged, and the Sentence written under each Cauſe by the Judge, the ſaid Roll was by him ſigned and delivered to the Greffier's Keeping; who at the Party's Requeſt drew the Acts thereupon, and carried them to the Judge who ſigned them. And therefore in all ſuch old Acts it is added at the End, *given by Copy of the Rolls*; and then the Judge had three half-pence only for his Signature, or Signing, and nothing when the Cauſe was deliver'd to him, beſides the Greffier's (or Clerk's) Fee of One Penny in ſome Acts, and Nine Deniers in others: Neither had the Jurats any Fee, by reaſon that by the Precept of Aſſize the Bailiff and Jurats are bound to do Juſtice between the King and the Subjects *gratis*: But ſince the Time when Mr *Amice de Carteret* was Bailiff the Caſe is altered, and their Fees are regulated in the Method they at preſent ſtand.

Secondly, The Regiſters of Bargaino to be read in the Courts of Heritage; after which Reading the Lineager hath but a Year and a Day to relieve the Bargain. And theſe Regiſters have been kept time out of mind, though perhaps the *firſt* Books of Regiſter are now loſt.

Thirdly, The Regiſters of Bargain for the Date and Preference of thoſe who regiſter themſelves; and this by a ſpecial Order of the Court begun in the Year 1631.

Next, the King's Procurator, who is ſworn into his Office by the Bailiff and Jurats: He is to plead the King's Cauſes, and defend his Majeſty's Rights and Prerogatives; to proſecute, and endeavour to bring to condign Puniſhment all Offenders againſt the Laws and Ordinances of the Iſle; and to ſee that all Fines and Forfeitures be levied to the King's Uſe, His Salary was uſually as the Governor and he could agree, at the Time the Governor had ſuch Appointment.

The Comptroller is an Aſſiſtant to the King's Procurer, and, Time out of Mind, has been a ſworn Officer to plead the King's Cauſes, as the Procurer does: And formerly

formerly (but not now) uſed to receive ſuch Fees as the Governor and he agreed upon.

THESE two Officers, as alſo the Bailiff, were, about eighty Years ago, appointed by the Governor, who had the ſole Diſpoſal of their Places. But upon a Diſpute in the Year 1674, on the Death of *Amice Andros* Eſq; (the then Bailiff) whether the King or the Governor was to nominate the Bailiff, it was declared by Order of the King and Council, that for the future the Right of naming the Bailiff, Procurer, and Comptroller, ſhould be reſerved to his Majeſty; and ſo thoſe Appointments have ever ſince continued; and the Power of the Governors in other Points has been greater or leſs, as their Commiſſions have at different Times been either enlarged or reſtrained.

THE King's Serjeant is appointed by the Governor. To his Office it belongs to proclaim and publiſh all Orders of the Governor, or of the Courts: He is to make Sale of all Diſtreſſes, taken for the King, in any Part of the Iſland; and for all other Perſons that are upon the King's Fief. And after the ſame Manner, extends his Office to the ſummoning ſuch as are impleaded to appear at Court.

He is to warn all Officers of the Court to give Attendance when required.

Upon particular Manors or Fiefs there are other Serjeants, who each perform the ſame Kind of Office within their own Diſtricts; which Serjeants have no conſtant Fee, but are bound by their Tenure to perform that Service in thoſe particular Places. But all Serjeants, as well the King's Serjeant, who conſtantly attends, as others, are to attend the Court, and give a particular Account of their Exploits, when required; for which there is a Fee due to them.

The Bordiers, are ſuch as hold Lands of the Crown, for which they are obliged to perform certain Services.

First, they are to appear, and anſwer, when they are called, at the Court of Chief Plaid (before treated of,) more particularly at thoſe held at *Michaelmas*. Without them the Pleas of Heritage cannot be held. They are accountable to the King, for all Rents due from their Bordage; which they are to collect, and pay in, as far as their Bordage extends: They are alſo to perform, when required, the Office of Serjeant: They are to attend the

the Provoſt as a Guard, when he brings any Criminal before the Court to be tried, and likewiſe when any Criminal is condemned or ſentenced; they are (as our Sheriffs Officers here) to aſſiſt the Provoſt, in ſeeing the Criminal carried to the Place, where the Sentence is to be executed upon him; and are there to attend, until it be performed.

THEY had formerly another Officer, called Advocate, whoſe Admittance was allowed of by the Court, before whom he was ſworn to plead ſuch Cauſes as were to be tried in the Court; and no Cauſe was heard, in which ſuch Advocate did not appear: But ſuch Advocate owning the Cauſe (which by his Oath, he was not to do, unleſs he found ſome probable ground of Law and Juſtice, to go upon) the Parties concerned, or any Friend of theirs, by Letter of Attorney, authoriz'd, might plead in the Court, and urge what Matter of Fact or Law they had to make Uſe of, in the Cauſe ſo tried: And at that time it was very warmly urged, that a Man able to plead his own Cauſe, without an Advocate, and ſhould yet be conſtrained by the Court to have one, at an extraordinary Expence to own it, before any Pleadings could be made, was a groſs Abuſe, unjuſtly introduced, in Favour only

only of ſuch Advocates, for which there was no Precedent, either in the Cuſtoms of *Normandy*, Approbation, Extent, or Precept of Aſſize, or in the Records of that Iſle: But with equal Propriety, it muſt be obſerved, that no Man, of himſelf, ſhould be allowed to introduce a Cauſe into open Court, without previous Advice from ſome Practitioner, who could beſt know whether it was juſt and equitable or not.

THERE are ſeveral Fiefs or Manors in the Iſland, wherein Courts are kept relating to thoſe Fiefs; ſome of which are in the King's Hands, and ſome in particular Perſons, who hold their Fiefs of the Crown; there is one called the Fief of *St. Michael du Vale*, which has a larger Juriſdiction than all the reſt; and may therefore deſerve a particular Account to be given of it.

THIS, in Times of Popery, did belong to the Abbot of *Mount St. Michael*, but, upon the Suppreſſion of all Monaſteries, Priories, Aliens, and ſettling their Lands, came into the King's Hands, and ſo has continued. The Court is kept by a Seneſhall, and eleven Vavaſſors, and there belongs to the Court three Provoſts, a Serjeant, a Greffier, or Clerk: They hold Pleas

Pleas of ſuch Cauſes as ariſe upon that Fief, which is of large Extent; and, once in three Years, they formerly uſed (but now once only in ſeven or nine Years) to go in a Body to take a View of the Repairs, and Incroachments of the Highways, through a good Part of the Iſland; and lay Fines upon ſuch as they find faulty, either for Want of Repairing, or making Incroachments; which Fines are reported to the Court Royal, and by their Authority levied to the King's Uſe: The Day they are taking ſuch View, they are entertained at the King's Charge, and ſo is the Court Royal the next Day, when they are employed in reviewing the Fines, and giving Order for their being levied; in this Proceſſion, the King's Officers alſo attend the whole Ceremony.

THE Original of this Cuſtom, aroſe from the Abbot's going once in three Years in ſolemn Cavalcade, againſt which Time (when Popery prevailed) the Court of the Fief of St. *Michael* went to ſee the Ways put into good Order, for the Abbot's more convenient Paſſage with his Proceſſion.

THIS being looked upon as a very great Relique of Popiſh Superſtition, was long ago, in a great Meaſure, ſuppreſſed, by

by the Governor, in whoſe Name and Authority, that Proceſſion or Riding is made; ſeeing alſo, that he was commonly at more Charges, on Account of ſuch Riding, than the Fines came to; and, above all, that it was a ſuperſtitious carrying of the *Romiſh Hoſt*, or Sacrament, about the Iſland once in three Years, that that Riding made the Ways prepared for; and, as the Pope had not kept Poſſeſſion of a greater Piece of Superſtition in that Iſland, ſince the Reformation; and it was alſo obſerved, by the then Governor, about ſeventy Years ago, (who oppoſed this ſort of Proceſſion) that the Seaſon of the Year, it was performed in, and all other Circumſtances clearly demonſtrated, that this ſuperſtitious Riding, was nothing but a Preparing of the Highways, for the *Feſte de Dieu*, as the Roman Catholics call it.

THIS Court of the Fief of St *Michael* have likewiſe their Entertainment, or Dinner, at the King's Charge, thoſe Days they hold their Chief Pleas, which is thrice a Year; and ſo have other Courts upon the King's Fiefs.

THE Court Royal have alſo their Entertainments provided at the King's Expence, thoſe three Days in the Year, that they hold their Chief Plaids; and whenever

ever they paſs Sentence of Death, Corporal Puniſhment, or perpetual Baniſhment on any Criminal.

From the foregoing Account, given of the Manner and Times of the Year, in which their publick Courts or Terms are held, it plainly diſcovers they were not hit upon by Chance, but (as thoſe in *England*) calculated with great Wiſdom, and deſigned for the Eaſe and Convenience of the People, and their Manner of living in the Iſland: And, indeed, were it not ſo, Juſtice would loſe its Name, and turn to Oppreſſion.

To theſe Particulars, of their civil Juriſdictions and Laws in *Guernſey*, it may not be improper to ſubjoin this general View under the four following Heads:

I. The Antient Cuſtom of *Normandy*, as it ſtood before the Alienation of that Dutchy, in the Time of King *John*, and was contained in an old Book, called in the Rolls of the Itinerant Judges (before ſpoken of) *La Somme de Mançel*, that is, *Mançel*'s *Inſtitutes*. For, whatever Changes have ſince that Time been introduced into the ſaid Cuſtom, by *French* Kings or *French* Parliaments, they are now of no ſort of Force, either in *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, or the other

other adjacent Iſlands, ſubject and belonging to *Great Britain*. This Law, and the *Terrien* Law, are to them, what the Statute Law is in *England*.

II. MUNICIPAL and Local Uſages; which are their underwritten and traditionary Laws, like the common Law in *England*.

III. CONSTITUTIONS and Ordinances, made by our Kings (ſuch as thoſe in King *Henry* VIIth, and Queen *Elizabeth*'s Time, *&c.*) or, their Commiſſioners impowered thereto, under the Great Seal; together with ſuch Rules and Orders, as are, from Time to Time, tranſmitted to them, from the Council-Board, or his Majeſty's Secretary of State, by their Direction.

IV. PRECEDENTS and former Judgments, recorded in the Rolls of the Court. Theſe laſt, cannot, in ſo ſtrict and proper a Senſe, be ſaid to be Laws, as wanting the royal Authority, without which, nothing can be a Law: Nevertheleſs, great Regard is had to them in doubtful Caſes. The ſame may be ſaid of ſuch political Regulations, among them, as are made by the Court, or Aſſembly of the States, like thoſe

thoſe ſet forth by other Bodies corporate, for the good of thoſe Societies.

The KING'S REVENUE *conſiſts of theſe* PARTICULARS.

THE Tythes of all Corn and other Grain, and (in many Parts of the Iſland) the Campart, are due to the King. Firſt, the tenth Sheaf for Tythe, and then the eleventh for Campart. Theſe are by the Governor let out to ſeveral Farmers, uſually from three Years to three Years, at ſuch Rents as the Governor and they can beſt agree upon. The whole Rent of all the ſeveral Pariſhes may amount to ſomething more than 7000*l.* Tournois *per Ann.* which is equal to about 500*l.* ſterling.

THE chief Rents, and other Rents paid in Corn, come to about ſix hundred and eight Quarters, and two Buſhels of Wheat, great Meaſure; which, when Corn is about ſeven Pounds Tournois the Quarter, as frequently it is, will come to about four thouſand two hundred and ſixty Pounds Tournois, *per Ann.* which is pretty equal to three hundred and four Pounds ſterling; fourteen Livres, *Guernſey* Money, making one Pound. The Rents paid in Money come to about ſixty-eight Pounds ſterling *per Ann.*

TOUCHING the Corn Tythes, it may be neceſſary to obſerve, that it has been commonly reported, among the more antient People of *Guernſey*, that in former Times, (and even at preſent it is uſed in many Places,) the Tythe and Campart were left untied in Sheafs upon the Ground, by the Proprietors of the Field, who then gathered their own Corn: But afterwards, for many Inconveniencies, it was agreed between the Owners of the Field, and the Owners of the Tythes and Camparts, that the Labourers ſhould gather and tye up in Sheafs, and lay up in Cocks the whole Corn; and then the Proprietors of Tythes and Camparts ſhould have but the eleventh and twelfth Sheaf. Since which Time it has ſo been uſed, and is ſo continued; except only in the *Clos du Vale*, (where the greateſt Devotion for the Abby then was) where they did, nevertheleſs, pay their Tythes and Camparts, as they do now, at the tenth and eleventh Sheafs.

CORN here does not lie in the Ground ſo long as in *England*, being ſown later and reaped ſooner.

THERE are beſides, the Iſles of *Erma*, *Jathan*, and *Sihon*, and a large Meadow, formerly

formerly a great Pond, but now dry, in the *Vale* Pariſh, called the Grand *Mareſque*, and ſome Ground in the Caſtle *du Mareſque* near the Town, all which are uſually kept by the Governor, in his own Hands, for the feeding of his Deer, Rabbits, Horſes, and other Cattle, for his own Uſe; upon which, as alſo ſome other Lands, no certain Value can well be ſet.

Upon the whole, the Government is generally eſtimated as to its Value there, at about one thouſand Pounds ſterling Money *per Annum*.

Some Part of the Revenue is upon Things that come in uncertainly, and therefore can have no annual Value ſet upon them. Of this Nature are the *Treſiems* paid upon all Sales of Land, or Rent upon any of the King's Fiefs. The thirteenth Part of the Purchaſe is due, but the Extremity is not taken; but ſuch a reaſonable Compoſition or Part as may encourage Purchaſers.

The ſame Uncertainty is in the Fines and Amercements of the Court, and all Forfeitures, Wrecks at Sea, the Cuſtoms, Anchorage, and Tonnage upon all *French* Veſſels.

Of their Religion, Churches, Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdictions, *&c.*

THESE Iſlanders, like their Neighbours on the Continent, were originally great Pagan Idolators; and there are ſtill to be ſeen, in ſome Parts of their Iſlands, the Ruins of old Monuments of Paganiſm; particularly in *Jerſey*, where the Superſtition of the *Druids* prevailed to the higheſt Degree of Ignorance and Barbariſm; who erected Altars, whereon Sacrifices were offered by them, not of Beaſts only, but of living Men alſo, as *Cæſar*, *Tacitus*, and all other Hiſtorians bear Witneſs: And it may very juſtly be obſerved, that the Sight of any Remains of ſuch barbarous Altars, which have ſo often been beſmeared with human Blood, ſhould particularly remind thoſe among whom they ſtill ſubſiſt, of God's infinite Grace and Mercy, in extinguiſhing ſo diabolical a Superſtition, by the Goſpel of his Son.

THE *Romans*, though themſelves Idolaters, yet, abhorring human Sacrifices, did all they could to put a Stop to them, wherever they found them practiſed; giving no Quarter to the *Druids*, the Miniſters of thoſe execrable Rites. But the utter

utter Aboliſhing of them was reſerved to be the Glory and Triumph of Chriſtianity.

HERE it may not be unentertaining to make a ſhort Digreſſion, in order to give the Reader ſome general Idea of the *Pagan* Kind of Worſhip, practiſed among the original *Gauls*, as well as theſe *Iſlanders*.

WHEN the *Romans* made a Conqueſt of the Provinces of the *Gauls*, they were, like the reſt of the World, involved in the Abyſs of Idolatry. And amongſt other falſe Deities, the *Gauls* worſhipped *Teautanes*, or *Mercury*, and had an infinite Number of petty Deities, and particular Genii, for every County, City, or Habitation.—They uſed to ſacrifice in Woods, and had a mighty Veneration for large old Oaks. The *Druids* were both the Miniſters of their Religion and Philoſophy; they being ſo denominated from a *Greek* Word that ſignifies an Oak; for they offered no Sacrifices, but when they had a Branch of it in their Hands. Or from a *Celtic* Word that ſignifies Society, becauſe they lived in common, almoſt as *Monks* do.

THEY attributed a wonderful Virtue to the Miſſeltoe, (from whence, very probably, that old Cuſtom, ſtill continues,

of hanging up the Miſſeltoe Buſh at *Chriſtmas)* which they ſearched for, and gathered with many Ceremonies. We have alſo Accounts of Women *Druids*; ſome particularly in the Iſle of *Sena*, which was upon the Coaſt of *Corucallia*, at the fartheſt Part of lower *Bretagne*; who always continued Virgins; and who, it was believed, were endued with a peculiar Spirit, that they could, by the Power of their Charms, ſtir up the Sea and Winds, transform themſelves into any Sort of Animals they pleaſed, penetrate into Futurity, propheſy, and the like.

The *Gauls* had alſo other Deities, whom they called *Eubages*; they were looked upon to be very well ſkilled in the Art of foretelling what was to come, by inſpecting the Entrails of Victims, particularly human ones. A Cuſtom like this I obſerved, of my own Knowledge, within theſe twenty Years, among ſome particular *Negroes* in *America*; with the Difference only of inſpecting the Entrails of Poultry, eſpecially Hens, at the Funeral Ceremony of any Perſon, whom they ſuſpected were poiſoned, or came by their Death unnaturally: A particular *Negroe*, called among them their Jumbee (or Prieſt) attending their Burials for ſuch Purpoſes.

The

THE *Gauls* and other neighbouring Idolaters, fancied there was ſomething divine and awful in the Obſcurity of thick Forreſts, in the frightful Horrors of ſubterranean Caves, in the Depths of the moſt hollow Pits, in the Height of tall Trees and ſharp Rocks, in Birds, whoſe Flights approached the Heavens, in Serpents that ſhunned the Sight of Men, and ſunk themſelves under the Earth.

THEY made their Prayers in Copices and Buſhes, at the Feet of Rocks, at the Brink of a Fountain or Pool, with many other extravagant idolatrous Notions and Forms of Worſhip, too tedious any longer to dwell upon.

BY what Means and Methods, ſuch Paganiſm and Idolatry was firſt aboliſhed, and the Chriſtian Religion made its own Way into the World; and, unaſſiſted by any ſecular Power or Intereſt, triumphed over all the Oppoſition that was made againſt it. How it pleaſed the divine Wiſdom and Providence at length, totally to root out Paganiſm, and reſcue Chriſtianity from the Cruelties of Heathen Perſecutions, which, for ſome Ages, had prevailed, is not a Taſk here intended; or, indeed, a Subject applicable to this Performance. It is ſufficient for the preſent

ſent Purpoſe to oberve, that the firſt providential Step towards the Converſion of theſe Iſlands, was the Migration of great Numbers of holy Men, Biſhops, and Prieſts, and a pious Laity, out of *Great Britain* into *Armorica*, flying from before the Face of the prevailing Heathen *Saxons*.

CÆSAR, in his Commentaries, ſays, that the antient *Gauls*, generally called all thoſe Cities, or Places bordering upon the Ocean *Armorica* ; but particularly, the lower Parts of *Normandy* and *Bretagne*, as being ſituate almoſt entirely upon the Sea ; and from whence, alſo, it is highly probable to imagine, theſe Iſlanders of *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*, originally, went over to ſettle.

AMONG thoſe Fugitives, drove out of *Britain*, by the Cruelties of the *Saxons*, the moſt conſpicuous, as for the Sanctity of his Life, ſo for the Eminence of his Character, was *St. Sampſon*, who had been a Metropolitan in *Britain* ; but whether of *York* or *Menevia*, (now *St. David*'s) remains yet, after many learned Enquiries for Vouchers, wholly uncertain.

THAT he was a *Britiſh* Archbiſhop, and carried the Pall with him into *Armorica*, is certain, and confeſſed by all.

HIS

His Reception there, was likewiſe anſwerable to the Rank he had held in his own Country, the See of *Dol* being conferred on him, and in his Favour erected into a Metropolis.

And becauſe the ſame was of narrow Extent, unequal to the Dignity to which it was now raiſed, great Acceſſions were made to it, by the Munificence of Princes. Theſe Iſlands were then under the Dominion and Subjection of the Kings of *France*, (as previouſly taken Notice of in the Introductory Part of this Hiſtory) who had lately embraced Chriſtianity: And *Childebert*, Son of *Clovis*, made a Gift of them (that is, of their Spiritual Juriſdiction) to this St. *Sampſon*, for an Augmentation to his ſmall Dioceſe.

In thoſe Days, notwithſtanding Chriſtianity did predominate, and Biſhops were eſtabliſhed in every conſiderable City, yet Paganiſm, long after, kept Footing in many Villages and diſtant Corners. The Territory of *Dol*, particularly, continued to be ſo infected with it, that the Remainder of St. *Sampſon*'s Life ſcarce ſufficed for the rooting it out; ſo that he could not, on that Account, give the Attention, which he greatly wiſhed, to the Care

Care of theſe Iſlands, which devolved on his Succeſſor. But in Remembrance of him, when the Iſlands became Chriſtian, a Parochial Church was built and dedicated to him in *Guernſey*, to this Day called St *Sampſon*'s. He was a worthy Prelate, famous in his Time: He ſubſcribed to the third Council of *Paris*, and (according to my Author) ended his Days about the Year 565.

Most of the Sees in *Armorica* were then filled with *Britiſh* Biſhops, who had accompanied St *Sampſon* in his Flight: But in his own Dioceſe and metropolitan Dignity, he left his Nephew, St *Maglorius* (a *Briton* likewiſe) to ſucceed him. And this was he, whom it pleaſed *God* to make the happy Inſtrument of bringing theſe Iſlands, which *ſat in Darkneſs and the Shadow of Death*, to the Knowledge of himſelf.

During the Times of Popery, and before the Reformation took Place, no People whatever were more overcome with little low Superſtitions, than theſe Iſlanders.

In the Time of *Henry* VIII. there, no more than here, the Purity, in which we have now the Happineſs to ſee the Proteſtant Religion firmly eſtabliſhed, gained but

but very little Ground; the Minds of the People in general not being quite reconciled to the Manner, in which that Prince and Cardinal *Woolſey* firſt attempted to bring it about: Which, in Fact, was rather quarreling with the Pope, than with the Pope's Religion; ſo that in his Reign Things were left, as to the happy Reformation, little better than he found them.

In the Reign of *Edward* VI. that glorious Work proceeded more orderly and vigorouſly; and the *Engliſh* Liturgy (or as it was then more commonly called, the Service Book) was ſent over to theſe Iſlands, and uſed in all their Churches.

Under Queen *Mary*, the Maſs was there, as well as here, ſet up again, but through the Mercy of *God*, the Perſecution did not rage ſo much in *Jerſey* as it did in *Guernſey*, and other Places. While that Queen made *Smithfield* Bonfires to burn the moſt innocent Proteſtants in *England*, one *Richard Aventy*, tho' a Popiſh Prieſt in *Jerſey*, was hanged for Murder, by Sentence of their Royal Court; which muſt ſeem an Act of extraordinary Reſolution in that Court, who condemned him againſt all who oppoſed, when it is conſidered how great the Power and Credit of the popiſh Clergy was in that Reign.

But

But in *Guernſey* ſuch an inhuman Deed was committed, by the Influence of *Roman Catholick* Power, as is hardly to be met with, either in antient or modern Martyrologies.

A POOR aged Widow and her two Daughters (whereof one, named *Perrotine Maſſey*, had married a proteſtant Miniſter, who was fled for the Security of his own Life) were condemned to be burnt for Hereſy. The Miniſter's Wife was big with Child: When ſhe came to the Stake to ſuffer, her Belly burſt, thro' the Violence of the Flames, and a lovely Boy iſſuing forth, fell gently on the Faggots. The Child was taken up, and carried to the popiſh Magiſtrates; who ſent it back, order.ng it to be thrown in with the Mother. The cruel Command was obeyed, and the innocent Babe baptized in Fire. *This*, among many other like Inſtances, muſt appear a bloody Picture, indeed, of thoſe impious Times, and what Proteſtants might expect to feel the Effects of, were it poſſible for that Religion ever to obtain the upper Hand or full Eſtabliſhment again in this Nation. In Oppoſition to which, he deſerves not the Name of a *Proteſtant* or *Briton*, who would not cheerfully ſtand forth with inflexible Reſolution of Heart and Hand, ſhould public Occaſion

ſion ever call upon us or our Poſterity, for ſuch an Exertion not only in Defence of our holy Religion, and the Honour and true Worſhip due to *Almighty God*, but the Zeal and Duty we likewiſe owe to our King and Country.

At the Beginning of the Reformation from Popery, ſoon after it became eſtabliſhed in *England*; and, likewiſe, all the Time they lay under a Preſbytery, many young Gentlemen of this Iſland and *Jerſey*, were ſent to ſtudy Divinity among the Proteſtants in *France*. But there aroſe from that Education, Inconveniencies, which gave a Tincture to the Principles and Opinions of thoſe Youths, altogether inconſiſtent with thoſe of the Church of *England*; to put an End to which, King *Charles* I. was humbly moved, by the States of both the Iſlands, to permit ſome Places, in one of our Univerſities here, in order to draw ſuch young Students over hither, and by that Means have their Studies put under a better Direction; to which the King agreed: But it was pretty long after ſuch Conſent, 'ere that Circumſtance became eſtabliſhed; which was effected by Archbiſhop *Laud*, ſoon after he got into Power, and took all the Churches under his particular Care. —It happened that a very good Eſtate,

conſiſting of Houſes in *London*, and Lands in *Buckinghamſhire*, eſcheated to the Crown: The Archbiſhop laid hold of that Opportunity and obtained a Grant from the King for the Endowing of three Fellowſhips in *Oxford*, (*viz.* one in each of the three Colleges of *Exeter*, *Jeſus*, and *Pembroke*) for the Iſlands of *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*, to be held by them alternately, the Alternation to proceed in this Order, *viz.* That, to whichſoever of the two Iſlands, the Election of two Fellows ſhould chance to fall firſt, (as it muſt of Neceſſity be) the other Iſland ſhould come in for the next two Turns, and ſo on, in a continual Rotation forever. To thoſe three Fellowſhips, there have been ſince added five Exhibitions, or Scholarſhips, in *Pembroke* College, each of twelve Pounds *per Ann.* not altering as the former, but ſo divided and proportioned betwixt the two Iſlands, as that *Jerſey*, being the biggeſt, has three of thoſe Scholarſhips allotted to it, and *Guernſey* has only two.

THESE were given by Biſhop *Morley*, a pious public-ſpirited Prelate, upon his taking into ſerious Conſideration that the Inhabitants of theſe Iſlands have not thoſe Advantages and Encouragements for the Education of their Children, which others of his Majeſty's Subjects do enjoy.

THOSE

THOSE Endowments have naturally led the Students from theſe Iſlands into the ſame Principles, as thoſe of the *Engliſh* Clergy. But the People of theſe Iſlands ſeem to obſerve, that when young Gentlemen, ſo ſent over to *Oxford*, have attained to a Capacity of ſerving their Country, they have rather declined that Service, diſheartened at the Smallneſs of the Preferment; and therefore chuſe to remain in *England*, hoping for ſomething better: By which Means (as I have before hinted) *French* Refugees, generally get eſtabliſhed in the Livings among them; and the End of ſuch Endowments is greatly fruſtrated; nor can it be otherways, unleſs Ways and Means are found out to augment the Value of thoſe Livings; the Incomes of which, in that of *Guernſey*, I have previouſly taken Notice of.

I MUST not quit the preſent Obſervations, without offering to the Reader this farther Remark, that thoſe two Points of Religion and Civil Government, about which moſt People are apt to break out into Parties and Factions, in theſe Iſlands never occaſion the leaſt Variance or Diſagreement among their Inhabitants.

Dissenters they have none; and Whig and Tory, or the more modern Epithets of Court and Country (Intereſts abſolutely inſeparable, notwithſtanding the Inconſiſtencies ſome Folks would enforce, as to their different Views;) theſe are Names among them without Significancy, and applicable to Nobody.—For in their political Sentiments, they eſteem him the beſt Man, who approves himſelf the beſt Subject to his Majeſty King *George*, his Royal Family, the *Britiſh* Conſtitution, and Government in general; and think themſelves happy under the mild Auſpices of his Reign, enjoying fully, as they do, their own Privileges and Immunities.

In *Guernſey* the Dean is at the Head of the Clergy, and, before the Reformation, exerciſed epiſcopal Juriſdiction, delegated to him, as before obſerved, from the Biſhops of *Coûtance*. When Epiſcopacy was eſtabliſhed in the Iſland a little after the Reformation, and Dr. *John de Sauſmares* appointed Dean, it does not appear that he or his Succeſſor had any Commiſſion from the Biſhops of *Wincheſter*, (under whoſe Dioceſe Queen *Elizabeth* had in 1568 put *Guernſey*, &c.) And, indeed, the Deans of both the Iſlands pretend, that their Office carries with it all delegated

delegated Juriſdiction, without any Need of Permiſſion or Commiſſion from the Biſhop. However, the preſent Dean has a Commiſſion of Official from the Lord Biſhop of *Wincheſter*; ſo that the Clergy can have no Pretence to diſobey him in all Things lawful.

THE Dean was originally nominated by the Governor, but upon the Diſpute mentioned, at the Time Lord *Hatton* was Governor, the King declared, that he would himſelf appoint the Dean, as well as the other Officers. But in the ſucceeding Governor's Patents, the ſame Words that gave him Power of naming the Dean, having been continued (by Miſtake as I ſuppoſe) he has to this Day preſented to that Office. And, indeed, it ſeems very fit that it ſhould be ſo; ſince, if the Preſentation was to paſs the Seals, the Charge of it would cut very deep in the narrow Income of the Dean; which does not amount *Communibus Annis*, (if I have been rightly informed) to 20*l.* ſterling; which perhaps, pays little more than the extraordinary Expence he is at, on Account of his Office. It is true, the preſent Dean has the Chaplainſhip * of the Iſland and

* The Chaplain's Duty is to read Prayers every Day, and preach every Sunday; beſides viſiting the Sick, and burying the Dead among the Soldiers.

Garriſon, the Revenue of which is ſix Shillings and eight Pence *per* Day, beſtowed on him by his Majeſty, through the Intereſt of the late Duke of *Somerſet*: And it is greatly wiſhed by the People of *Guernſey*, that the Deanery and Chaplainſhip ſhould always go together, and both as Vacancy happens, to an Iſlander; (as the Deanery is in *Jerſey*) otherwiſe the large Expence of a ſuitable Education, on the one Side, and the Smallneſs of the Preferment, on the other, will rather deter Parents from ſending their Children to our Univerſities, upon the ſlender Proſpect of a Pariſh, in that Iſland. And the few that have been ſent there, within theſe thirty Years, have been more with a View to get a Pariſh in *England*, than to go to ſettle in that Iſland. The Union, therefore, of theſe two Places in an Iſlander, would tend very much to raiſe an Emulation in their Youth to ſtudy, in Hopes ſome time or other to obtain them. At preſent there are but two Pariſhes that have Natives, the reſt are Foreigners, and no Likelihood of any *Guernſey* Men to ſucceed. The Misfortune, it ſeems, is, that theſe Foreigners muſt either be Calviniſts or Preſbyters, both brought up in Ignorance of, if not Prejudice againſt, the eſtabliſhed Church of *England*: Whereby frequent Diſputes ariſe between the Dean and

and them in *Guernſey*. In Regard to the Calviniſts (of the two much more agreeable to the Inhabitants) it was eaſy enough to get them ſixty or ſeventy Years ago, when they flew from the Perſecution in *France*, and were glad to find an Aſylum in a Place where *French* is the common Language. But now, no proteſtant Miniſters come from thence, it is not to be expected, that any one from *Holland* or *Switzerland*, that can find a Livelyhood in his own Country, will bury himſelf in this Iſland from his Friends, and from any farther Hopes of better Preferment. The People of *Guernſey* obſerve, that this indeed ſuits very well with the latter Gentlemen (the Preſbyter Preachers,) who finding it extreme difficult to get a tollerable Subſiſtence any where elſe, readily catch at a Pariſh there: And they have had ſuch Succeſs that Way, that ſix out of the ten Pariſhes are at preſent under the Care of theſe Gentlemen; and hereafter the Iſland muſt, probably, be obliged to take up with ſuch, or have no Miniſters at all, unleſs otherways rectified.

The Livings, as I have before remarked, are of ſmall Value, and no great Difference in the Income. The Pariſh of St *Sampſon* is united to that of the *Vale*; and that of *Torteval* to the *Foreſt*; whereby the

the Number of Miniſters is reduced to eight, and each has from fifty to ſeventy Pounds a Year.

THE Law about Delapidations in *England* does not take Place in *Guernſey*, but the Incumbent is only obliged to keep the Cover of his Parſonage and the Windows in due Reparation: The Pariſh is at the Charge of the reſt.

ALL the Churches in the Iſland are built with Stone, and are in better Condition than many Pariſhes of much greater Value. The Inhabitants, whatever they grudge to their Rector, are ready enough to keep their Churches in good Repair; which is ſo far very commendable. There is nothing remarkable in them, worth expreſs mention: Thoſe of *St Savieur* and *St Peter in the Wood* are reckoned the fineſt for Architecture, the laſt eſpecially. That of the Town will hold about four thouſand People, and is very often near filled on *Sundays*. In this Church there are Prayers every Morning, (*Saturday* excepted) and, ſince the Beginning of laſt Summer, three Times a Week, in the Afternoon; and two Sermons in *French*, on *Sundays*, and one in *Engliſh* for the Garriſon. In the other Churches there is but one Sermon on *Sundays*, generally

in

in the Afternoon, and no Service on Week Days.

THERE is an Order of *Charles* II. of the 24th of *March*, 1676, that "for the bet-"ter Edification of the People, Prayers "be conſtantly read, Morning and Even-"ing, at the canonical Hours, in the "Church of *St Peter's Port*: And the "like Penſion be allowed and paid to "the Rector, as was paid and allowed "immediately before the ſettling of the "Liturgy." But I doubt whether any Thing was done upon that Order: At leaſt, it does not appear, that, ſo far as relates to the Evening Prayers, it was ever complied with. And what is done, as mentioned above, is by voluntary Contribution; *Wedneſday* and *Friday* Mornings excepted, when the Rector himſelf officiates.

WHEN the Churches in this Iſland were built, they have no certain Record; but they have an Account in Manuſcript of their Dedication, which carries great Probability, and of which very old Copies are preſerved; and are, as follows:

St. Sampſon, the 22d of *May*, 1111.
St. Michael of the *Vale*, the 29th of *September*, 1117.

St.

St. Philip of *Torteval*, the 16th of *December*, 1130.

St. Savieur's, the 30th of *May*, 1154.

St. Margaret of the *Foreſt*, the 30th of *September*, 1163.

St. Peter of the *Wood* the 29th of *June*, 1167.

St. Martin, the 4th of *February*, 1199.

Our Lady of Deliverance of the Caſtle, the 25th of *Auguſt*, 1203.

St. Andrew, the 1ſt of *October*, 1284.

St. Peter at *St. Peter*'s *Port*, the 1ſt of *Auguſt*, 1312.

THIS Iſland enjoys a peculiar Bleſſing, which few other Places can boaſt; namely, that there are no Sectaries among them, but all are united in the Service of the Church of *England*. This Service was not introduced till the Time of King *Charles* II. tho' Queen *Elizabeth* had ordered, that it ſhould be uſed in all Pariſhes, the Town excepted; where Liberty was given to have the Service in the Preſbyterian Way. But this Liberty for the Town drew in all the reſt to the eſtabliſhed Religion. — Whoever will know more about this, may conſult Mr *Falle*'s Hiſtory of *Jerſey*, or Dr *Heylin*'s Survey.

I HAVE mentioned above, one of the Cauſes, why frequent Diſputes happen between

between the Dean and his Clergy; I ſhall now mention another, and that a very material one, ariſing from the Want of Canons in that Iſland; for though, as to the Eſtabliſhment of the Liturgy, they are bound by poſitive Orders of Council, yet, as to the Execution of eccleſiaſtical Laws, they have no ſettled Rule to go by. This Defect has been often felt and complained of, and ſeveral Attempts have been made to remedy it; particularly in the Year 1700, when Sir *Peter Meaux*, then Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, was very earneſt to introduce a Body of Canons, pretty much the ſame with thoſe of the Iſland of *Jerſey*; and which the royal Court approved of, with ſome ſlight Variations; but an unhappy Difference ſubſiſting then, and for ſeveral Years after, between their Royal Court and the Clergy, that good Deſign fell to the Ground. Laſt Summer it ſeemed to revive, and it is to be hoped, it will ſometime or other be put in Execution; as a much better Temper, if not perfect Amity, ſubſiſts at preſent between the two Courts.

Of the Convention of their STATES.

THIS Convention of their States, both in *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*, is moſtly the ſame in Points of Buſineſs, Manner,

Manner, and Ceremony of conveening them together; and is properly a general Council of the Iſland, wherein every Inhabitant is ſuppoſed to be preſent, either perſonally, or by Repreſentation.

THIS is an Honour, which for many Ages paſt they have been in Poſſeſſion of; the Crown having never refuſed to receive Deputations and Addreſſes from either of thoſe Iſlands in the Name of their States.

IT is compoſed of the Jurats or Court of Juſtice, as the firſt and nobleſt Body; of the Clergy, as the ſecond; and of the Conſtables, as the Repreſentatives of their different Pariſhes; by whoſe Votes thoſe Communities are bound and concluded.

THIS Convention cannot be held, but by Conſent of the Governor or of his Lieutenant, who have a negative Voice therein. — The Bailiff, or his Lieutenant, is the ſtanding Prolocutor in the Aſſemblies, and every Member preſent has Freedom of Speech in offering his Sentiments.

No States can be held, without ſeven of each Body, at the leaſt; and in Caſe of Abſence, he whoſe Excuſe is not allowed,

is

is liable to be fined, at the Diſcretion of the Members preſent.

It is indifferent at whoſe Motion this Convention is called; whether at the Governor's, when he would propoſe any thing for the King's Service; or, at the Magiſtrates, when any particular Intereſt of the Iſland requires ſuch a public Meeting or Conſultation: But a mutual Agreement is neceſſary, and muſt be among them, for this particular Purpoſe; and then a Day being fixed for convening together, the proper Officers of the Court ſummon the Members; and upon any public Exigency of Affairs, their Governor very rarely denies his Concurrence, or puts a negative Voice upon their Deliberations; unleſs there is very good Ground to refuſe his Conſent.

The great Buſineſs of theſe Meetings, is the raiſing of Money to ſupply public Occaſions; and they hold it a received Maxim, that no Levies can be made upon the Inhabitants, unleſs agreed to by their Repreſentatives aſſembled in Common Council. Nor have the States any Power, of themſelves, to create or impoſe new Subſidies, but only upon extraordinary Emergencies, when the Safety and immediate Defence of the Iſland requires it;

or, Application muſt be made to the King, by Perſons nominated by the *States*, and ſent over at the public Charge, to obtain his Majeſty's Royal Permiſſion, to levy what they judge ſufficient for thoſe Purpoſes, by fixed and equal Proportions, according to antient Rate.

Among other Buſineſs tranſacted by their States, Accounts of public Receipts and Expences are ſtated and audited. — Public Works propoſed to be done for the common Benefit, are maturely weighed and conſidered. — Deputies are appointed to bring over to *England* humble Addreſſes and Memorials, to his Majeſty and his Privy Council; and, in general, to ſollicit the Affairs of the Iſland. — Ordinances againſt Profaners of the Lord's Day, Blaſphemers of God's Holy Name, common Swearers and Drunkards, and other riotous and diſorderly Perſons, are enacted under proper Penalties; and, in a Word, all other Matters are tranſacted therein, as are moſt conducive to preſerve the Honour and Reverence due to God and Holy Things; the Fidelity and Obedience they owe to his Majeſty, and thoſe who act under his Authority; the Peace, Tranquility, Welfare, and Happineſs of the whole Iſland.—For the Preſervation of which, and to anſwer the other Purpoſes, thus

thus pointed to, their Magiſtrates deem it prudential to take the Advice and Council of the States, wiſely conſidering that their Concurrence, muſt naturally add Force and Vigour to the like Sanctions.

Of the particular PRIVILEGES *enjoy'd by the Inhabitants of* Guernſey, *as well as* Jerſey, *and the other neighbouring Iſles, belonging and ſubject to* England.

BY the Grace and Favour of our Kings of *England*, particularly from the Time of King *John*, theſe Iſlands enjoy many valuable and uncommon Privileges; and the Motives aſſigned for granting them, are,

1ſt, To reward their Loyalty and Fidelity to the Crown of *England*; which the Inhabitants of them valued themſelves in having merited by their good and faithful Services.

2dly, To engage them to be loyal and faithful ſtill; in as much, as they cannot (without high Ingratitude) have any Temptations, whilſt they enjoy ſuch Privileges, to even wiſh for a Change, or Separation from the *Britiſh* Dominions.

3dly, To better their Condition, conſidering the real Diſadvantages they labour under, from their Situation; ſurrounded, as it were, by *France*, and expoſed to new Attacks and Alarms, from every Incident, that may at any Time occaſion a War between *England* and *France*; which muſt, of Conſequence, require the higheſt Encouragement, to keep in Heart, any People ſo circumſtanced.

They claim the Original of their preſent Liberties, and Franchiſes from the Conſtitutions of King *John*; which all ſucceeding Kings have greatly enlarged and extended; and ſeem to have vied with each other, who ſhould moſt teſtify their Approbation of the Conduct and Loyalty of theſe Iſlanders, by additional Favours.

To enumerate their ſeveral Charters, and dwell upon every minute Circumſtance therein contained would be tedious.

In general, by all former as well as preſent Grants to them, they always have been, and ſtill are declared to be a free People, ſubject to no Authority, but what emanates directly and immediately from the Crown of *England*. Univerſally

ly throughout the King's Dominions and Territories, they are declared to be a free People, who ſhall not be treated as Foreigners and Aliens, but as Native *Engliſhmen* : And this alone includes many Points of great Moment and Importance to them, in their Commerce and otherwiſe.

QUEEN *Elizabeth* particularly diſtinguiſhed them, and looked on their State and Condition as deſerving, in a ſingular Manner, her royal Regard and Conſideration.

THEIR Exemption from parliamentary Aids, they eſteem not ſo properly a Grant or Privilege, as a natural and neceſſary Conſequence of their being a *Peculiar of the Crown* ; agreeable to the Obſervation of that great Lawyer, *Coke*, in his Inſtitues, Part IV. Cap. 70. wherein he declares, that " the King's Writ " runneth not into theſe Iſles ; " the like Exception belonging to them all. For which alſo another eminent Perſon (ſuppoſed to be Lord Chief Juſtice *Hale)* in the Hiſtory and Analyſis of the common Law of *England*, publiſhed *Anno* 1713, in Chap. 9, gives theſe two Reaſons.

" FIRST, becauſe, ſays he, the Courts " there (in thoſe Iſlands) and thoſe here,

" (at *Weſtminſter*) go not by the ſame " Rule, Method, or Order of Law."

" SECONDLY, Becauſe thoſe Iſlands, " tho' they are a Parcel of the Dominion " of the Crown of *England*, yet they are " not Parcel of the Realm of *England*, " nor, indeed, ever were: But were an- " tiently Parcel of the Dutchy of *Nor-* " *mandy*, and are thoſe Remains thereof, " which all the Power of the Crown and " Kingdom of *France* have not been able " to wreſt from *England*."

BUT though the King's Writ runneth not into thoſe Iſles, the ſame great Lawyer obſerves, from the before-mentioned Record, that his Majeſty's Commiſſion under the great Seal doth, in particular Inſtances and urgent Emergencies. And Commiſſioners, on ſuch Occaſions, being ſo appointed, and ſent over, tho' their Arrival there ſuſpends the ordinary Forms of Juſtice, yet they can in no Caſe, concerning Life, Liberty, or Eſtate, determine any Thing contrary to the Advice of the Jurats, who are to ſit and make conjunctive Records of their Proceedings with them. And, laſtly, ſuch Commiſſioners muſt alſo judge according to the Laws and Cuſtoms of the Iſle.

Acts of Parliament do not bind theſe Iſlanders, unleſs they are ſpecially named. And when ſuch Acts are to be notified to them, they go over, accompanied with an Order of Council, to give them Sanction and Currency there.

In every Charter from *Edward* IV. incluſive, and ſucceſſively downwards, theſe Iſlands have had Privileges of an extraordinary Nature granted in their Favour; none more extenſive, or does more Honour to them, than that in Queen *Elizabeth*'s Reign; of which Mr *Cambden*, and Dr *Heylin* have taken great Notice. Mr *Selden* (with Regard to ſome particular Privileges recited in that Charter,) urges it as an Argument to ſupport his Hypotheſis of the King of *England*'s Dominion over the Narrow Seas. And in taking Notice of the Iſland of *Jerſey*, which will cloſe this Hiſtorical Account, I ſhall give the Reader, for the Singularity of it, a literal Tranſlation of that Charter.

Before I enter upon the real Importance of *Guernſey*, and the other Iſlands, to the *Engliſh* Nation (more particularly in Times of War,) and give a general View of the fruitleſs Attempts, frequently made by the *French*, for many Ages paſt, in

in order to have regained them, — I ſhall beg Leave to inſert the following remarkable Story, recorded in *Guernſey*, with all its Circumſtances, as undoubted Facts.

In this Iſland, on the 29th of *December*, 1672, an extraordinary Accident happened at *Caſtle Cornet*, occaſioned entirely (from all the Inhabitants were ever able to find out) by Thunder and Lightening; wherein, a remarkable Inſtance of divine Judgment, attended with uncommon Marks of Mercy to thoſe who eſcaped periſhing in the midſt of the Cataſtrophe, was eminently manifeſted, agreeable to the following Narration offered to the Reader's Notice, from the moſt authentic Account, of the blowing up of the Magazine of the abovementioned Caſtle, *viz.*

Castle Cornet, it muſt be obſerved, is an invincible Place, ſituated upon an inacceſſible Rock, having little or no Avenues to it. In the Time of the grand Rebellion, it held out a tedious long Siege, yet was never taken, although aſſaulted with the utmoſt Vigour, two ſeveral Times, by *Oliver*'s Forces, when the Soldiers in it, were moſt of them ſick with the Scurvy: But after all Attempts to have taken it proved ineffectual, and in which

which, great Numbers were ſlain, the gallant Cavaliers, who defended this impregnable Fortreſs, withſtood the Enemy with the braveſt Intrepidity, and underwent many Hardſhips, until their Proviſions were wholly ſpent; when they were forced to ſurrender upon honourable Terms; not before they had obtained the Sum of 1500 *l.* ſterling, to ſecure themſelves, when marched out, from farther Diſtreſs, by *Cromwell*'s Party.

THIS Caſtle ſtands before the Town and Harbour Eaſt by South, and commands all the Road and Avenues in that Part of the Iſland, where the Channel is very narrow and dangerous. In this Caſtle, the Governors uſually made their Reſidence; and received the Reſpects of all Captains, Commanders, and Maſter's of Ships, before they went into the Iſland. It is ſurrounded by the Sea, and is never dry, but at the Ebb of Spring Tides; its Diſtance from the Iſland is not Half a Mile.

ON *Sunday* Night, about 12 o'Clock, the Day abovementioned, the Magazine of this Caſtle was blown up, with the Powder in it, by Thunder and Lightening. The Night was very ſtormy and tempeſtuous, and the Wind blew hard at South

South Weſt, to which Aſpect, the Door of the Magazine exactly fronted; and the Thunder Bolt or Clap, which accompanied this dreadful Calamity, was heard to come circleing, (or as it were ſerpentining) over the Platform, from the South Weſt. In an Inſtant of Time, not only the whole Magazine was blown up in the Air, but, alſo, all the Houſes and Lodgings of the Caſtle; particularly ſome fair and beautiful Buildings, that had juſt before been erected at great Expence, under the Care and Direction of the Right Honourable the Lord Viſcount *Hatton*, their then Governor, who was at the ſame Time within the Buildings of the Caſtle; all which Buildings, were, with many others, reduced to a confuſed Heap of Stones, and ſeveral Perſons buried in the Ruins.

In the upper Part of the Caſtle, at a Place called the New Buildings, was killed, by this Accident, the Right Hon. the Lady Dowager *Hatton*, by the Fall of the Ceiling of her Chamber, which fell in four Pieces, one of them upon her Breaſt, and killed her on the Spot.

The Right Honourable the Lady *Hatton*, Wife to the Governor, and Daughter to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Thanet*, was likewiſe deſtroyed in the following

ing Manner: —— Her Ladyſhip being greatly terrified at the Thunder and Lightening, inſiſted (before the Magazine blew up) upon being removed from the Chamber ſhe was in, to the Nurſery, where having cauſed her Woman to come alſo to be with her, in order to have joined in Prayer, in a few Minutes after, that noble Lady and her Woman fell a Sacrifice, by one Corner of the Nurſery Room falling in upon them; and were the next Morning both found Dead.

In the ſame Room, was alſo killed a dry Nurſe, who was found dead, having my Lord's ſecond Daughter faſt in her Arms, holding a ſmall Silver Cup in her Hands which ſhe uſually played with, which was all rimpled and bruiſed, yet the young Lady did not receive the leaſt Hurt. This Nurſe had likewiſe one of her Hands fixed upon the Cradle, in which lay my Lord's youngeſt Daughter, and the Cradle almoſt filled with Rubbiſh, yet the Child received no ſort of Prejudice. Beſides theſe, one Enſign *Covert*; Mr *William Prole*, the Lord *Hatton's* Steward; and a conſiderable Number of other Perſons, were all deſtroyed by the ſame Accident.

Having given this Account of thoſe who periſhed, I ſhall briefly mention ſome of

of thoſe, alſo, who eſcaped, and were moſt miraculouſly preſerved in this extraordinary and uncommon Diſaſter.

First, The Right Honourable the Lord Viſcount *Hatton*, their Governor, who, at that Time, had his Appartment in a very neat convenient Houſe, which his Lordſhip had built him, about two years before this Affair happened. This Houſe ſtood North by Eaſt from the Magazine, and very near it.—His Lordſhip, at the Time it blew up, was faſt in Sleep, and was actually, by the Exploſion, carried away in his Bed upon the Battlements of a Wall, which was battered by the Sea, between rugged Precipices, juſt adjoining to his Houſe; and was not awaked, but by a Shower of Hail that fell upon his Face, and made him ſenſible where he was: This, no doubt, muſt appear very extraordinary, but is averred to be Fact. A moſt miraculous Preſervation, indeed, in as much, as that the Houſe, wherein his Lordſhip was ſo taken away, was razed to the very Ground, nothing of it being left ſtanding but the Door Caſe. From thoſe Battlements on the Wall, his Lordſhip was conveyed by two Blacks, (who among other Servants attended him) to the Guard Room of the Caſtle, under the deepeſt Affliction, to know whether his

his Lady had eſcaped, or what was become of her, offering a thouſand Pounds to whomſoever ſhould bring her alive to him, but no News could be learned of her Ladyſhip's Fate, until it was clear Day; when ſhe was found cruſhed to Death, in the manner before related.

UNDER his Lordſhip's Apartments was a Chamber belonging to the Lieutenant of his Company of Foot, who, by the Violence of the Shock was carried out of his Room, Part of which fell in, and he was tumbled in a very extraordinary Manner, into an Entry on the Ground Floor, but received no manner of Hurt.

AT the upper Buildings of the Caſtle, were ſeveral Apartments, and People in them all, particularly the Lord *Hatton*'s two Siſters; (one of whom I imagine to have been the late Counteſs of *Nottingham*) the Enſign of my Lord's Company, and his Wife; with ſeveral other Perſons. — Upon my Lord's two Siſters fell, or rather glanced, a Beam, both Ends of which happened to be between them, in ſuch a Manner, that although they were both together, before it fell in, yet they could not, afterwards, get at each other; but were pulled out of their Room through a Hole, made on Purpoſe in a Partition Wall,

and neither of them received any ſenſible Hurt; nor did any others in thoſe Apartments receive any Harm, notwithſtanding ſeveral of the Rooms fell in, wherein many of them, at that Time, were faſt in ſleep; and ſome of the Floors were in Heaps of Rubbiſh about them, as they lay in their Beds.

From this ſhort and melancholy Narration, and the many ſimilar Accidents which ſo frequently happen in different Parts and Places, if not within our Sight, at leaſt within our Knowledge, how exceedingly ought we to ſtand alarmed, and ſeriouſly contemplate the indiſpenſible Neceſſity we are under, to paſs our Lives and Converſation in ſuch a Manner, as not wilfully to offend the great and powerful Ruler of the Univerſe? the mighty *Jehova!* Whoſe awful Nod could command the ſtupendous Fabrick of this terreſtrial Globe to be cruſhed into the minuteſt Atoms, and thrown into its original Chaos, in a Moment's Space of Time.

By the ſame Almighty Power, are the whole Race of Mankind, in every Spot of the Creation, alike liable to be cut off in an Inſtant, or miraculouſly preſerved (as we very lately have been

been, in *London*, *Northampton*, and many other Parts of this Kingdom) by the ſame omnipotent Hand, in the Midſt of our Pleaſures and worldly Purſuits.

A MOMENTARY Shock like this, I ſay, may, for ought we otherwiſe know, ſooner or later, prove our Lot, whenever the inevitable Fate of our Impieties will no longer ſuffer the divine Juſtice to be patient. Whenever an incenſed Deity ſhould ſo determine it either by Thunder, Lightning, Earthquake, (O! ſhuddering dreadful Thought!) or any other Intervention of his Finger only being ſtretched out to take Vengeance, or denounce Judgment on the daring Vices of a wicked Multitude; too many of whom, from the Conviction of hourly Experience, are not to be won by the moſt pathetic Admonitions from our Pulpits; the Examples of good Men; the Mildneſs and Lenity of our Government: Nor, in a Word, intimidated from their deſperate Enterprizes (Robberies, Murder, Forgeries, and what not) by the Terror of Puniſhment or offended Laws.

THE Reader, (according to the Date of Time this *Hiſtorical Account* is now carrying on from the Preſs) will readily conceive, I am more than ordinarily ſtruck

with ſome very late wicked Examples of Murders, Robberies, and Forgeries, of a moſt uncommon Nature; which, if not ſpeedily prevented, by ſome new and rigorous Laws, or the more eligible Method of ſome Kind of Patrolling, in proper Bodies well armed, for the Security of ſober Perſons, in this great Capitol, in the Winter Seaſon of the Year; theſe attrocious Villains, who thus infeſt every Part of our City and Suburbs, will, ſooner or later, grow (if poſſible) in a higher Degree deſperate; and our Government, it is to be feared, will find great Difficulty in ſtopping their barbarous Progreſs and Succeſs.

Some

Some REMARKS on the

IMPORTANCE

OF

GUERNSEY,

And the other

Islands on the Coast of FRANCE,

belonging to the BRITISH Dominions.

WITH

A short View of the Dangers they have frequently been exposed to by the *French*.

WHOEVER considers the natural Ambition of the *French*, their Thirst of Power, the large Strides they have frequently made towards the Attainment of universal Monarchy; and the extravagant Attempts to aggrandize their Nation, by new Acquisitions, must imagine, that it certainly could not (nor

very probably at this Time cannot) but be an Eye-ſore to them, to have theſe Iſlands within their Sight, and not within their Power: To ſee them, at leaſt, in the Poſſeſſion of the *Engliſh* Nation, ſo ſtrong in Shipping, and ſo likely, by the Opportunity of theſe Places, to annoy their Trade. For if we look upon them in their Situation, we ſhall find them ſeated, as it were purpoſely, for the Command and Empire of the Ocean.

THESE Iſlands are ſituated in the chief Trade of all Shipping from the eaſtern Parts unto the Weſt, and in the middle Way, between *St Malo's* and the River *Seine*, the principal Traffick of the *Normans* and *Pariſians*. At *St Malo's*, as at a common Empory, do the Merchants of *Spain* and *Paris* barter their Commodities. The *Pariſians* make both their Paſſage and Return by theſe Iſles; nor can they do it otherways: Which (in Time of War) if well aided by a ſmall Force from the *Britiſh* Navy, would quickly bring that Intercourſe to nothing, and conſequently diſtreſs the *French* to the higheſt Degree.

THE Earl of *Danby* (who was Governor of *Guernſey*, in the Reign of King *Charles* the Firſt,) conceived ſuch a Courſe, of all others,

others, to be the fitteſt and moſt eligible, for the impoveriſhing, if not undoing, of the *French*: And he, accordingly, made Propoſition, by his Letters, to the Privy Council, that a Squadron of eight Ships, of different Rates, might be uſefully employed about theſe Iſlands, for that Purpoſe. This Advice of Lord *Danby*'s was propoſed to the King and Council, much about the Time when they had ſent over the Duke of *Buckingham*, with a large Fleet and Army, to the Relief of *Rochel*; and they landed in the Iſle of *Rhée*; which ſo provoked the *French*, that they threaten'd to revenge the Affront, by a Deſcent the next Year in *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*: But that Deſign being diſcovered, the Earl of *Danby* was ſent over, with proper Force and Supplies, to *Guernſey*, in order to repulſe any Attempt of that Kind.

The Regard his Majeſty King *Charles* the Firſt and his Council profeſſed for the Safety and Welfare of *Guernſey*, and the other Iſlands, will appear manifeſt, from a Letter, ſent over by the Right Hon. the Lord *Conway*, one of the Secretaries of State, which I find as follows:

Windſor,

Windſor, Auguſt 12, 1627,

To my very loving Friends, the Bailiff and Jurats of the Iſle of *Guernſey*,

" YOUR Petition to his Majeſty, " ſent by the Bearer, was graciouſly " received, and your Affection, therein " expreſſed to his Majeſty's Service, " and your own Safety, commended. " The Dangers that ſeem to threaten " theſe Iſlands, have been taken into due " Conſideration, and Orders given for " the preſent Succour to be ſent to you : " Wherein his Majeſty, and the Lords of " the Council have manifeſted as great " Care of your Preſervation, as can be ex- " pected ; having, in the Proportion of " Ships and Land Soldiers, ordered as " much as is conceived will ſecure you " againſt the Attempts of the Enemy.

" As his Majeſty is confident, and " doth expect, that you will apply your " utmoſt Induſtry, Care, and Diligence " for your Defence : So, for your En- " couragement, his Majeſty has com- " manded me to give you Aſſurance, (in " his Name) that, as he doubts not but " he has ſufficiently provided for you " at preſent, ſo he will at all Times, and

on

" on all Occaſions, continue his Protec-
" tion unto you, in ſuch Sort, as ſhall af-
" ford you Security, and ſhew how much
" he eſteems that Portion of his Inheri-
" tance, and the unſpotted Faith, and
" dutiful Loyalty of his Subjects of thoſe
" Iſlands. Of all which your Governor,
" the Earl of *Danby*, on his Arrival, will
" further inform and confirm to you.
" In the mean Time, I have, with the
" greateſt Speed I could, diſpatched the
" Bearer back to you; who, I preſume,
" will, on his Return, continue the ſame
" Diligence he hath uſed here. So, wiſh-
" ing you all Proſperity, and being ready
" to contribute all in my Power, for the
" Good and Safety of the Iſland, I re-
" main your aſſured loving Friend to
" ſerve you".

(Signed) *Conway.*

THE Earl of *Danby*, ſpeaking at that Time of the great Privileges, granted by the King's of *England*, to the Inhabitants of theſe Iſlands, likewiſe added, " That the Privileges and Immuni-
" ties, ſeconded of late Years, with the
" more powerful Band of Religion, have
" been a principal Occaſion of that Con-
" ſtancy, wherewith they have perſiſted
" faithfully in their Allegiance and Loy-
" alty, and diſclaimed (as they ſtill do)
" even

" even the Name and thought of *France*." For, however the Language which they ſpeak is moſtly *French*, and that in their Original, they either were of *Normandy* or *Brittany*, yet can they by no Means endure to be accounted *French*; but in general, have as great an Averſion to that Nation, as any of its natural Enemies.

It may be no Digreſſion to obſerve here, that during the long Exile of King *Charles* II. and the mercileſs Outrages committed by *Oliver*'s Party, which extended to theſe Iſlands, *Guernſey*, after every vigorous Defence the Inhabitants were able to make, was at laſt forced to ſubmit to the Uſurper, except *Caſtle Cornet*, which ſingly ſtood out for the King. This occaſioned a ſort of inteſtine War in that Iſland, the Caſtle and the Town exchanging many Shot at each other: But when all other Hopes vaniſhed of doing his Majeſty Service by a farther Reſiſtance, that noble Caſtle, alſo, opened its Gates to the Rebels; who in the ſame Year 1651, (ſo fatal to theſe Iſlands) made an End of ſubduing the Royal Party every where entirely.

At this particular Period of Time, there had been no ſmall Apprehenſions in *England*, leſt the King, urged by his Neceſſities,

ceſſities, ſhould be induced to put theſe Iſlands into the Hands of the *French*, for Security of ſuch Sums of Money, as they would then very readily have furniſh'd him with. It cannot be denied, but that the King had it in his Power to have ſo diſpoſed of theſe Iſlands, if he had pleaſed; and had met with ſufficient Provocation to juſtify, almoſt, any Meaſures of that kind: And although ſuch a Circumſtance was ſuggeſted to him, yet the Event, however, ſhewed that his Majeſty generouſly rejected it, and (in the Words of the Lord *Clarendon*, in his Hiſtory of the Grand Rebellion, *Vol.* III. *p.* 465) "was "ſo ſtrict and punctual in his Care of the "Intereſt of *England*, when he ſeemed to "be abandoned by it, that he choſe ra-"ther to ſuffer thoſe Places of great Im-"portance to fall into *Cromwell*'s Power, "than to depoſit them upon any Condi-"tions into *French* Hands; who he knew "would never reſtore them to the juſt "Owner whatever Obligations they en-"tered into."

None underſtood better than the King, who had long reſided in *Jerſey*, how much it concerned *England*, that the *French* ſhould never have any thing, on any Pretence, to do with theſe Iſlands; and that he, therefore, rather choſe to truſt his moſt

moſt deadly Enemy with them, than that Nation. He very well knew, that, by being in *Cromwell*'s Hands, they would remain to the *Britiſh* Crown; but, if once poſſeſſed by the *French*, they would be loſt irrecoverably; than which, no greater Calamity could have befallen theſe Iſlanders; who would have been undone forever.

Mr *Falle*, who expatiates largely on the Circumſtances theſe Iſlands were in during *Oliver's* Uſurpation, very warmly exclaims at the Misfortunes his Countrymen then laboured under. At that Time, (ſays he) we were fallen under the arbitrary Rule of Tyrants, whoſe little Finger we found heavier than the Loins of our rightful Kings: Witneſs the Sequeſtrations, Compoſitions for Eſtates, diſqualifying for Offices, impoſing of ſinful Oaths and Engagements, and other Vexations, which followed upon our being made their Conqueſt, or rather their Prey.

Five thouſand Soldiers were put at free Quarters upon the Country *(Jerſey)* and left, without Check or Controul, to commit the greateſt Inſolences and Outrages. Who being a frantick Herd of Sectaries of all Sorts, vented, with full Licenſe, their Fanatical Rage, (which they called

called Zeal) againſt the eſtabliſhed Religion, (the ſame with the Church of *England*) turning the Churches into Guard-Houſes and Stables, abuſing them yet more indecently, and unfit to be named; ſpilling on the Ground the Water deſigned for the Baptiſm of Infants, diſturbing the public Aſſemblies, and invading the Pulpits with other Profanations and Impieties, very ſhocking to the good People of that Iſland, who had been bred up in a becoming Reverence for the ſacred Inſtitutions of Chriſtianity, trampled upon by thoſe Hypocrites.

But to return. — The Earl of *Dorſet*, Lord Chamberlain, in the Reign of the late King *William*, always conceived the higheſt Opinion, and entertained the moſt generous Sentiments, as to the Importance of theſe Iſlands, as well as the Regard he held for their Inhabitants; and, on a particular Subject, ſpeaking about them, among other Things, his Lordſhip very politely ſaid, that, *He really looked on theſe Iſlands as the prettieſt Flower in the Engliſh Diadem*, concluding with the greateſt Aſſurances of his Regard for their Safety and Welfare: For, at that Time, it ſeems, there were many Perſons in *England* (notwithſtanding the open Rupture then with *France*) who appeared

perfectly indifferent, whether theſe Iſlands remained in *Engliſh*, or paſſed over to *French* Hands. In Oppoſition to any Suggeſtions of this Nature, I will here venture to aſſert, that whatever Opinion, then was, or may ever hereafter be entertained, that theſe Iſlands are indifferent to us, in their Conſequence, as to keeping them, or not; or, that the *French* have always their Eye towards more conſiderable Objects, than regaining Poſſeſſion of them, as not being worth their Trouble and Expence, on ſuch account to break with us; whoever conceives the Importance of theſe Iſlands in ſuch a Light, do egregiouſly err, it being a certain known Truth, that the *French* Nation actually have made very conſiderable Efforts to retake them; of which I ſhall, in the Cloſe of this Chapter, exhibit many other flagrant Inſtances, beſides thoſe already taken Notice of: Nor, can I here avoid giving ſome farther Particulars of ſuch Attempts, in the Time of *Lewis* XIV. In his Reign, (in the Year 1665) a very deep Conſpiracy was formed, with a View to have got Poſſeſſion of them, by Surprize; which, in all Probability, would have taken Effect, had not a Confirmation of that Deſign reached the Knowledge of the *Britiſh* Court, greatly thro' the Means of *Marſhal de Turenne's*

renve's Lady; who being a Proteſtant, and zealouſly attached to her Religion, had conceived a ſingular Kindneſs for the People of theſe Iſlands, and gave an early Account of the Deſigns of the *French* Court (touching that intended Attempt) to a worthy Divine of *Jerſey*, the Reverend Mr *Daniel Brevint*, with whom ſhe had long been acquainted; and who was afterwards Prebendary of *Durham*, and Dean of *Lincoln*. In Conſequence of which Intelligence, given by that Lady to him, the Deſign of the *French*, to have ſeized theſe Iſlands, took Air, and ſoon reached *England* and the other Iſlands.

Upon this Diſcovery, Sir *Thomas Morgan*, who had remarkably ſignalized himſelf, as a brave and experienced Officer, was ſent over, with proper Forces, to wait the Event of that intended Enterprize, being held in the greateſt Veneration by the People of *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*.

From the Diſpoſitions made, at that Time, by theſe Iſlanders, under the Conduct of that Gentleman, and from private Intelligence otherways, the *French* Court ſaw its Deſign no longer a Secret, and was therefore conſtrained either to lay it aſide, or publickly avow and purſue it by open and barefaced Force. But as this laſt

could not be done, without their incurring the Reproach and Infamy of a moſt ſhameful Prevarication; in having, contrary to mutual Engagements with *England*, clandeſtinely armed to ſurprize theſe Iſlands, the *French* Court, therefore, thought it beſt to drop the Deſign: Not a little owing to *Marſhal de Turenne*, who earneſtly diſſwaded the Undertaking; for ſo long, at leaſt, as the *Chevalier Morgan* (the Marſhal calling him by that Title) commanded in theſe Iſlands, who, he ſaid, was not a Man to be frighted or deterred by any ſuperior Force that could be brought againſt him, from making a moſt deſperate Defence, but would ſacrifice himſelf with all his People, ſooner than diſhonourably give up a Poſt committed to his Truſt: And ſuch an obſtinate Reſiſtance (added the *Marſhal)* would cauſe too much Blood to be ſhed on both Sides. So ſalutary to theſe Iſlanders was the Reputation that brave Man had acquired in the Profeſſion of Arms. Thus the Storm blew over, that had threatened the Inhabitants; and their Deliverance, at that Time, all Circumſtances conſidered, was looked upon equal to the greateſt that had been wrought for them in any Age.

It might appear too prolix, to dwell upon all the particular Circumſtances, attending

tending the many Endeavours the Court of *France* have, for about eight hundred Years paſt, made uſe of, with a View to have regained theſe Iſlands, if they could; and the great Regard that has upon ſuch Occaſions, ever been ſhewn towards their Safety by the *Britiſh* Crown, in ſuch Times of Danger or War, between the Monarchs of *England* and the *French* Kings.

It may be ſufficient to obſerve, that they have more or leſs been attacked, or greatly threatened by the *French*, in almoſt every Reign, from the Time of *William the Conqueror*, and as often preſerved by the Vigilance of our Kings and Government here, as well out of Eſteem for the Inhabitants, as a true Knowledge of their Importance to this Nation. From theſe brief Obſervations, therefore, the like Regard to their Preſervation and Security, will, no doubt, always appear obvious, ſhould any future Rupture happen between *England* and *France*, from Breach of Treaties, ſolemnly ratified and confirmed between the Two Crowns. A Circumſtance! which no Prince nor Miniſtry can poſſibly guard againſt, where either Party are actuated by perfidious or ambitious Motives, to break the Faith of ſolemn Engagements of Peace and Amity,

without juſt Provocation or Cauſe for Reſentment.

HENCE muſt appear, the ſame Neceſſity, for the Welfare and Security of theſe Iſlands, in Caſe of any future War with *France*, as hath ever been ſhewn towards them in former Reigns; particularly for ſtationing ſome of our Ships of War, properly about them, to act in Conjunction with their Privateers, in order to put a Stop to any Intercourſe of Traffick, which the Merchants of *St Malo*'s, in particular, could poſſibly carry on, to and from the Places before taken Notice of; or to the *South Seas*, or any other Part whatever, while ſuch Men of War ſhould continue vigilantly to block up their Shipping and annoy their Trade.

THIS, in its Conſequence, is a Fact ſo ſelf evident and demonſtrable, that it requires no great Embelliſhment, or Length of Argument to enforce its Fitneſs and Utility, whenever the *French* Nation obliges *Great Britain* to make Uſe of the Experiment, in order to diſtreſs them on that Part of their Coaſt.

THESE Particulars, as to the Situation and real Importance of theſe Iſlands to *Great Britain*, eſpecially in Times of War,

I have taken the Liberty to point to in this Manner, with the utmoſt Deference and high Reſpect to thoſe great and noble Perſonages, now in Power, who preſide, with juſt Reputation, at the Helm of our national Affairs; who well know the Conſequence of them to the *Britiſh* Crown; and who have given every Proof of their Attachment, and Regard to their Security and Welfare, in taking due Care to render them ſufficiently fortified and ſtrengthened againſt any Enterprizes, or Attempts, formed againſt them by their Enemies.

In Return for ſuch Regard, it is true, that the Inhabitants of theſe Iſlands cannot, on their Parts, glory in the Extent or Riches of their Country; which can bear no Proportion, or enter into Compariſon with the leaſt of thoſe other Provinces that conſtitute the *Britiſh* Empire and Dominions. But they can very juſtly boaſt of their unblemiſhed Loyalty, which, on all Occaſions, they have kept and given manifeſt Proofs of to this Day: And, through a Series of near eight hundred Years, ever ſince the antient Dukes of *Normandy* exchanged the Coronet for the Imperial Crown of *England*, they have been noted for their Attachment and Fidelity to our Kings, as well as natural

Affection

Affection to *Engliſh* Subjects; of which they account themſelves as much ſo, in Reſpect to national Intereſt, and Connection, as any Gentleman Farmer, born in the County of *Middleſex*, or other Subject, who drew his firſt Breath in the interiour Part of *Old Englaud*; and, very probably, for this Reaſon, (the immediate Reſult of exalted Goodneſs) becauſe they know it is proper, that the Subjects of the ſame Prince ſhould always continue united by Intereſt and Sentiments; and that thoſe who attempt to Diſunite them by artful Suggeſtions or groundleſs Fears, are, of Conſequence, no better than Enemies to both: And where this proves the Caſe, I may, from great Juſtice and well known Experience, venture to aſſert, that, whether Subjects are ſo divided either by Sophiſtry or Force, thoſe who aim at their Separation can have no good Views; but, by ſuch Diviſion, may, very probably, have an Eye towards puſhing themſelves into Power, and by ſuch Means obtain an abſolute Sway.

Of the Invasions *of the* Iſlands *of* Guernsey *&c. by the* French.

HAVING offered the foregoing Remarks on the Importance of theſe Iſlands, particularly in Times of War, and in ſome Meaſure, ſet forth the Advantages which may be made of their Situation, as well, with Regard to the Security of our Trade and Navigation, as for diſtreſſing that of the Enemy, I ſhall conclude the Account of *Guernſey*, with the following ſhort View of the Attacks made againſt them by the *French*, from the Reign of King *John* (incluſive) to the Time of the Concluſion of the Reign of *Lewis* XIV. of *France*.

In the Reign of King *John*, the *French* attacked theſe Iſland twice; but the King going there in Perſon, with a great Force, obliged them to retire: And before he left the Iſlands, fortified the weaker Places, and put them in a good Poſture of Defence, in caſe of any freſh Attempts. *Vide Dr* Heylen's *Survey of the Iſlands*, *Page* 292.

Under his Son's (*Henry* III.) Reign there was ſome Apprehenſions of another Attack, for he ordered the Barons of the Cinque

Cinque Ports to go to their Aſſiſtance, upon the firſt Notice from the Governor; adding for a Reaſon, becauſe they had well deſerved of him, and he owed them both Commendation and Thanks.

In this Reign, the *Engliſh* were as paſſionately deſirous to have recovered *Normandy*, as the *French* were to have regain'd theſe Iſlands: And if *Richard*, Earl of *Cornwall*, K. *Henry* III's Brother, could have fixed himſelf in the Empire of *Germany*, which he at that Time ſtood ſome Chance for, no doubt, but the ſtrongeſt Attempts would have been made to effect it: — But *Lewis* IX. called *St. Lewis*, knowing how our King *Henry* was then embroiled with his Barons, made Uſe of that Conjuncture, by the Interpoſition of the Pope's Legates to come to a Treaty with him; and, to that End, King *Henry*, with his Wife, Brothers, and Children going over to *France*, it was there agreed, that *Henry*'s Sons, Brothers, and Succeſſors ſhould for ever renounce all Claim and Pretenſions to *Normandy*, as well as all Right and Title the *Engliſh* held Claim to in other Parts of *France*, in Conſideration of a large Sum of Money advanced by *Lewis* IX. to King *Henry*. —— This Renunciation and Treaty was agreed to and ratified, in the Year 1259. At this

this Time, theſe Iſlands, notwithſtanding, remained firm to the Crown of *England*; nor would King *Henry* and his Council come into any Meaſures, as to parting with their Poſſeſſion.

In *Edward* the Iſt's Reign, the *French* again attempted to take *Guernſey*, but were repulſed; but they took *Caſtle Cornet*, which was obliged to ſurrender for want of Proviſions and Ammunition; but it was ſoon after retaken by the Valour of the Inhabitants.

In the Beginning of the Reign of *Edward* III. both *Guernſey* and *Jerſey* were ravaged, and the Towns laid in Aſhes by the *French*: Upon which the Parliament of *Britain* drew Repreſentations to the King, to keep the Sea; to purvey the Navy; and to defend theſe Iſlands. (Sir *Robert Cotton*'s Abridgment p. 29.) But, finding it would take too much Time to reduce *Caſtle-Cornet*, they returned to *France* with their whole Force. Afterwards, they made an Attempt upon *Jerſey*; but having Intelligence, that an *Engliſh* Fleet had appeared at Sea, they returned to their Ports with great Precipitation. (*Falle* p. 69.)

In *Henry* the IVth. Reign, theſe Iſlands were pillaged in a moſt inhuman Manner by the *French*: It ſeems *England*, in this King's Reign, was engaged in a very bloody War with *France*, on account of dethroning *Richard* the Second, (who had married *Iſabel*, Daughter of the *French* King,) when the *French*, not only attempted theſe Iſlands, and did great Damage to their Inhabitants, but alſo landed about the ſame Time at the *Iſle of White*, and at *Dartmouth*, which laſt Place they intended to have burned, (as they had before done the Town of *Plymouth*,) but were diſappointed by the brave Defence of the People. (*Ech.* Vol. I. p. 427.)

During the glorious Reign of King *Henry* the Vth, theſe Iſlands lay unmoleſted; that King, not only prevented the *French* from diſturbing his Dominions; but alſo, went very near compleating the Conqueſt of that Kingdom. It being well known, that after the Battle of *Azincourt*, the *French* King *Charles* the VIth was forced to give up his Kingdom to *Henry*, together with his Daughter *Catherine* in Marriage.

King *Henry* the VIth agreed to grant to the Count of *Maliverer*, a *Frenchman*, theſe

theſe Iſlands in full Sovereignty in Conſideration of 2000 Veterans to be ſent over to the King's Aſſiſtance in *England*; and accordingly, Part of *Jerſey* was delivered to him; but the reſt held faſt for the *Engliſh*.

COUNT *Mauliverer*, to whom Part of the Iſland of *Jerſey* was reſigned, or made over to, was at that Time Great *Seneſchal* of *Normandy*, and a Nobleman in high Eſteem at the Court of *France*, having married a natural Siſter of *Lewis* the XIth, whom he afterwards killed with his own Hands, under Pretence of her being too much in Familiarity with his Huntſman: For this raſh Action he was obliged to fly the Kingdom; but they burnt him in Effigy, whilſt he was in the Iſland of *Jerſey*.

KING *Edward* the IVth, being ſettled on the Throne, it was retaken (as previouſly hinted in my Introduction) by Sir *Richard Harliſton*, Vice-Admiral of *England*; with the Help and Valour of a great Number of *Guernſeymen*, who went on that Expedition: On which Account, King *Henry* the VIIth granted many extra Privileges to *Guernſey* for that Service. (*Falle* p. 79.)

In the Minority of *Edward* VI. *Serk*, a ſmall neighbouring Iſland, was taken; and *Guernſey* would have been ſo to, had not a Squadron of Men of War, and 800 Men, been ſent in Time to prevent it. *Serk* remained in Poſſeſſion of the *French* untill the next Reign.

Mr. *Lediard*, in his *Naval Hiſtory*, obſerves, as to the Attempt made in this Reign, *viz.*

" The *French* (ſays he) reſolved upon " an Attempt to reduce *Guernſey* and " *Jerſey*. For this Purpoſe, they fitted " out a powerful Squadron of Men of " War; with which they tranſported a " Body of 2000 Men (Land-Forces) thi- " ther. Captain *William Winter* was " commiſſioned from *England*, to op- " poſe their Proceedings, and to that End " was ſent with ſome Ships (a Squadron, " as juſt before mentioned,) and 800 " Soldiers. At his Arrival, he found the " Enemy had far ſuperior Force to his, " both by Sea and Land: This, did not " however diſcourage him from attacking " them; and he did it with ſo much " Bravery and Conduct, that the *French* " were glad to retreat with the Loſs of " 1000 Men, and to give up their Gal- " leys, as a Prey to the *Engliſh*."

The

THE 2000 Men which Mr. *Lediard* mentions here, muſt have been the ſame Body which the *French* had before poſted in the Iſland of *Serk*. For, according to Mr. *Falle*, the *French* ſailed from thence in the Night with their Forces to *Guernſey* (to which they had but two Hours ſailing,) and ſet upon the *Engliſh* Fleet, which lay at Anchor in that Road: Many of the Officers were on Shore, and a ſleep; which gave the *French* ſome Advantage in the Beginning of the Fight; but the Town being alarmed with the Noiſe of the Cannon, and Help getting to the Ships, the Fight was maintained, and the Enemy repulſed. *Rapin* ſays, that both Sides claimed that Victory, which ſeems very likely, ſince the *French* were able to go and attack *Jerſey*, where they landed in *Bouley-Bay*; but that Place being in a hollow Bottom, and encompaſſed about with high Cliffs and Hills, on which the People poſted themſelves, ſo galled and annoyed them, that they were obliged to take to their Ships after loſing many of their Men. In that Retreat, it is ſaid, the *French* loſt 1000 Men.

ON Queen *Elizabeth*'s Acceſſion to the Throne, the *French* were too much diſtracted, and embroiled in Civil Wars, to

give any Diſturbance to their Neighbours. But the Queen, well knowing the Temper and Diſpoſition of the *French*, and judging from what had paſſed in her Brother's Reign, thought it convenient to put theſe Iſlands in a better State of Defence, than they had ever been before. Accordingly, in *Guernſey*, great Additions were made to *Cornet Caſtle*; ſhe ordered a new one to be built at *Jerſey*, (which as founded by her, bears her Name) and which ſhe carried to great Perfection; but, has ſince, during his preſent Majeſty King *George*'s moſt auſpicious Reign, been ſo much encreaſed, and ſo well, and completely fortified, that it may very juſtly be ranked as one of the beſt Fortreſſes in his Majeſty's Dominions.

In King *Charles* the Iſt's Reign, the *French* had reſolved to revenge themſelves upon theſe Iſlands, had not a Peace been concluded after the Expedition to the Iſle of *Rhee*, as already remarked.

Upon the Breaking out of the War between King *Charles* II. and *Lewis* XIV, in the Year 1665, the *French* took Advantage (as previouſly obſerved a few Pages backward in this Account) of the defenceleſs Condition of theſe Iſlands, and laid a very deep Deſign to have ſeized upon

upon them; but it was happily prevented: And one *Vauvour*, Governor of *Chauſez*, was hanged in *Guernſey* about that Time, for being a Spy, in Favour of the *French*, and endeavouring to practiſe upon the Inhabitants.

The Tranſactions of the Reign of *James* II. will admit of no Place in this Account. — With Regard to *France*, every body knows that Prince was in the ſtricteſt Amity with *Lewis* XIV.

It is true *James* II. quartered a Regiment in theſe Iſlands; but it was apparently proved, that his Deſign was rather to enſlave than protect their Inhabitants. A great Number of the Officers and Soldiers he ſent were Roman Catholicks, and a Chapel was fitted up for them in the Town of *Guernſey*: A popiſh Prieſt was alſo ſent over to ſay Maſs among them: And, to complete that King's Deſign, a Papiſt was made Governor. But it pleaſed *God*, to fruſtrate all the miſguided iniquitous Schemes of that Prince, by the Arrival of the Prince of *Orange* in *England*.

These Iſlanders ſhewed themſelves hearty in declaring for him; for as ſoon as they were informed of his landing in the Weſt, the Bailiff and Jurats of the

Royal Court of *Guernſey* (without waiting for Orders) contrived, with the oldeſt proteſtant Officer, how to ſecure *Caſtle Cornet*, diſarm the Papiſts, and confine the Lieutenant Governor. For which Purpoſe they fixed on a Day, when that Officer was to command in his Turn in the Caſtle: Accordingly, when he had ſo entered on Duty, the chief Captain of the Town, accompanied by a good Body of the Militia well armed, ſeized upon and diſarmed the popiſh Officers and Soldiers that were in the Town: Of which Notice, by a Signal which had been previouſly agreed upon, was inſtantly given to the Commandant in the Caſtle, who immediately ordered the Garriſon to Arms: Being aſſembled on the Parade, the proteſtant Officers and Soldiers, who had, according to Notice beforehand, loaded with Ball, marched out of the Ranks, and facing about, preſented their Pieces to the Papiſts, bidding them inſtantly to lay down their Arms, which they were obliged to do, the Proteſtants being ſuperior to them in Number; and by this Stratagem and Reſolution *Caſtle Cornet* was preſerved in the Hands of Proteſtants heartily attached to the Prince of *Orange*'s Deſigns.

THE happy Revolution (on declaring that Prince King of *England*) changed the Face of Affairs, not only in *England*, but over all *Europe*; and a formidable Confederacy was entered into, in order to reduce the exorbitant Power of *France*.

IN that Reign theſe Iſlands were put in a good Poſture of Defence, againſt any Motions of the *French* to annoy them; and the Earl of *Peterborough* was diſpatched over to *Guernſey* for their Saftey: And tho' theſe Iſlanders lay under uneaſy Apprehenſions, for a long Time, leſt they might be ſurprized by the Enemy, their Fears were at laſt wholly diſſipated, upon the News of the Signal Victory gained by our Fleet, at the Battle of *La Hogue*, in the Year 1692. Juſt before which Engagement, Admiral *Carter* with ſeventeen Men of War, was ordered out to Sea, with Directions to ſail to *Guernſey* and *Jerſey*; there to take on Board ſome Pilots, and ſail on the *French* Coaſt, near *St. Malo's* for forty-eight Hours; and after ſtretching over to *Cape la Hogue*, was to return to *Spithead*, if it ſhould not be found convenient for the Security of theſe Iſlands, to remain longer on the *French* Coaſt.

NOTHING

NOTHING very extraordinary has happened with Reſpect to theſe Iſlands being attacked or threatened by the *French*, ſince that Period: And, I believe, I may venture to conclude this Part of my Hiſtorical Account with the following Obſervation. — That if the *French* have not attacked them in the intermediate Space of Time, it muſt be, becauſe they are not in a Capacity to do it; and are no Strangers to our great Superiority on the Ocean: Which, that *Great Britain* may, to the lateſt Ages, ever continue to preſerve, in Oppoſition to all her Enemies, is an unfeigned Prayer which will never depart from my Breaſt.

STRENGTHENED by ſuch Bulwarks, and *Britons* being united, Enemies might dare invade, but the Conjunction of all the Powers in *Europe* could never ſenſibly do us Injury. Our Fleet will ride triumphant in every Part of the Globe; and Commerce may with Safety be extended into every Port of the known World.

TO this hiſtorical Account of the firſt Inhabitants, antient and preſent Laws, Cuſtoms, Religion, Model of Government, Privileges, Trade, Revenues, and Importance of the Iſland of *Guernſey* in particular: I ſhall, agreeable to my Deſign,

ſign, promiſed in my Propoſals, ſubjoin the following general View of *Jerſey*; in which, as their is the greateſt Similitude, or Connection, between the two Iſlands, with reſpect to their Manners, Cuſtoms, Government, Religion, and Laws; I am therefore, in a great Meaſure, left without further ſubject Matter to entertain the Reader, or dwell otherways upon, than by giving a brief Deſcription of the Situation of that Iſland, its Soil, Produce, and Trade.

OF THE

ISLAND

OF

JERSEY.

IT has already, been in a particular Manner obſerved, that the Iſlands of *Jerſey* and *Guernſey*, are the only Remains to us of the Dukedom of *Normandy*, (which in former Times for many Years together was in the Poſſeſſion, as theſe Iſles now are, and under the Command of the King's of *England)* and are both ſeated in the Sea called *Mare Britannicus.*

JERSEY has on the North Parts of it the Coaſt of *Hampſhire*, and on the South the County of *Normandy*.

THIS Iſland is long, and not much unlike the Shape, or Faſhion of an Egg. It contains in Length from St. *Owen Bay* upon

upon the Weſt, to Mount *Orgueil Caſtle* on the Eaſt, about twelve Miles, and in Breadth, where it is broadeſt, between ſix and ſeven. The whole Circuit of the Iſland is about thirty-eight Miles, its Latitude, according to the lateſt Obſervations, is in 49 Deg. 10 M. North, and 2 Deg. 20 M. of Weſt Longitude from the Meridian of *London*.

It may be neceſſary to obſerve, that the Coaſts of *Normandy* and *Bretagne*, meet in almoſt a right Angle, and form a ſpacious Gulph or Bay, which takes its Name from *Mount-Saint-Michael*, a famous Abbey of *Benedictins*, ſeated at the Bottom, or inmoſt Receſs of it. In this great Bay, betwixt *Cape de la Hogue* in *Normandy* and *Cape de Frehelle* in *Bretagne*, the Iſlands of *Jerſey*, *Guernſey*, and the Reſt belonging to *England*, lie, as it were, in a Cluſter, yet at reaſonable Diſtances from each other, and nearer to *Normandy* than *Bretagne*. *Jerſey* is the fartheſt within the Bay, as *Guernſey* lies more without towards the *Britiſh* Channel. From *Jerſey* to *Carteret* or *Port-Bail* in *Normandy*, the Traject is about ſix Leagues, and the Land being very high on both Sides, Churches and Houſes may, in ſerene Weather, be eaſily diſcerned from either Coaſt.

On

On the North, *Jerſey* is an entire Hill, with few and ſhort Vales; and on the South South Eaſt and South Weſt, it is cut into ſundry fruitful Valleys, narrow at the Beginning, but growing wider as they draw ſtill nearer and nearer to the Sea; where they terminate in ſeveral Flats of good Meadows and Paſtures.

Mr. *Poindextre* (mentioned in the Account of *Guernſey*) imagined that this Unevenneſs and Inequality of the Surface, added much to the Quantity and Proportion of the Ground, and that the Iſland was ſo much the more capacious and productive, by how much the more the Surface was expanded, riſing with the Hills, and deſcending with the Valleys. But herein, Mr *Falle* ſeems very juſtly to differ from that Gentleman, (who was a Man of great Learning, and a good Mathematician.) It being, ſays Mr. *Falle*, demonſtrable, that a Country that is exactly level, will contain as many Houſes and Inhabitants, will produce as many Trees, Plants, *&c.* as another Country, whoſe Surface is as uneven, and unequal as can be; but whoſe Baſis or Plane is yet no more than equal to the other. This Remark of Mr *Falle*, appears extreme natural. For, the true Dimenſions

ſon of any Country is not to be taken from thoſe Gibboſites that ſwell the Surface on one Place, or thoſe Profundities that depreſs it in another, but, from the true Baſis or Plane of the whole of that Country.

Jersey is a very delightful healthy Iſland; affords a very pleaſant Aſpect to the Sea: In its ſouthern Situation, it is not far from a craggy Ridge of Rocks, much dreaded by the Mariners, and makes the Paſſage that Way very dangerous; which, however, ſerves for a forcible Defence againſt Enemies who might attempt Invaſions; and theſe Rocks are called by the Name of the *Caſquets*.

The Nature of the Soil of *Jerſey* admits of great Variety, which proceeds from the Difference of higher and lower Grounds.

The higher Grounds (as in moſt other Countries) are gritty and gravelly, ſome ſtony and rocky, but others of a fine ſweet Mould. The lower are deep, heavy, and rich. There is but very little barren Ground in the whole Iſland; almoſt none, but what is, (or at very little Labour and Expence may be made) capable of receiving ſome profitable Culture, and recom-

penſing, one way or other, the Pains and Toil of the labouring Huſbandman.

THEY except, however, (in this Deſcription) a pretty large Tract of, once, excellent Lands in the Weſt of the Iſland, which, within theſe three hundred Years paſt, have been ſo over-run with Sands, that the Country on that Side bears the Reſemblance of a Deſert. This is ſaid to have happened by divine Vengeance, on the Owners of thoſe Lands, for detaining the Goods of Strangers that had been ſhipwreck'd on that Coaſt, though injoined by the higheſt Cenſures of the Church to reſtore them: And, indeed, this is likewiſe a Circumſtance which eſcaped my Memory, when I gave a ſhort Narration (in this Hiſtory pag. 27) touching the extraordinary Danger of Shipwreck, in which I was myſelf ſurrounded on the Coaſt of *Guernſey*; when, among other terrifying Apprehenſions, we were greatly fearful of being boarded and plundered, by ſome of the rude Iſlanders; eſpecially, as we diſcovered almoſt hundreds on the Shore ('ere we got out from among the Rocks) and at that Time, did not really know which of the Iſlands we had ſo fallen upon: But this barbarous ſavage Cuſtom, is, I am well informed

formed wholly left off, and highly condemned, by all honeſt People on theſe Iſlands; and ſuch Savages, when detected, are properly puniſhed for their Barbarity and Theft; a Species, in my humble Opinion, of the moſt iniquitous and unmerciful kind of Plundering; by adding cruel Miſery to poor Wretches in Diſtreſs; who, in all Probability, for many Days or Weeks, before they were ſo driven on the Coaſt, had been in every Moments Dread of ſinking into the Deep, and ſwallowed inſtantaneouſly up by the gaping Waves; without (as in many Caſes on Land) the leaſt Hope of being ſaved, from any other Aſſiſtance or Protection, than what the immediate Finger of Heaven, might be pleaſed, miraculouſly to grant in their Favour. — Dreadful Situation indeed! and which, of all others, claims our compaſſionate Commiſeration, when in our Power, towards ſuch Objects, as well as generous Concern for our Sailors and all Perſons in general, whoſe Lives and Fortunes depend on ploughing from Time to Time, that dangerous and uncertain Element. But to return:

Abstracted from ſuch an Opinion as to divine Vengeance againſt the Owners of ſuch Lands ſo become a Deſert on that Part of *Jerſey*, it might alſo ariſe from the

Effect of a Cauſe not preternatural — But as probably, from high weſterly Winds, which are known to blow almoſt at all Seaſons of the Year on that Side of the Iſland; and are daily obſerved to drive the Sands from the Bottom, to the Top of the higheſt Cliffs.

THIS Iſland, like *Guernſey*, produces all Kinds of Foreſt and Fruit Trees, Shrubs, Roots, Flowers, and Herbs of moſt Sorts; and all Kinds of Pulſe and Corn that grow in *England*; their Wheat of a ſmaller Size. They have one Sort of Wheat ſomewhat, if not quite, unknown in *England*, called in the Language of the Country *Froment Tremais*; becauſe it is but three Months in the Earth, being ſown about the latter End of *March*, and all the Month of *April*. Cyder they have in greater Abundance than in *Guernſey*; and the fineſt of Apples grow wild in every Part and Place of the Iſland, yielding one Year with another, great Quantities of good Fruit.

DR. *Heylin* obſerves of this Iſland when he was there, that he found the People more addicted to Tillage and Huſbandry, than to Manufactures and Navigation; and accordingly in his *Coſmography* (Lib. 1. page 197.) he ſays, that the Iſland

is

is generally very fruitful of Corn, whereof the Inhabitants have not only enough for themſelves, but ſome Overplus to barter at *St. Malo*'s with the *Spaniſh* Merchants. —But, according to Mr. *Falle*, that Matter is much altered ſince the Time Dr. *Heylin* was there, for that the Iſland does not now produce a Quantity ſufficient for the Inhabitants, who are often ſupplied with Corn from *England*, or (in Time of Peace) from *Bretagne* in *France*: And they have often gone as far as *Dantzic* in the *Baltick Sea*, being invited to that Voyage by the Cheapneſs of the Market.

Since Dr. *Heylin*'s Time, there has alſo been a great Decay of Tillage, from many Cauſes; but more particularly, from the Improvement of Navigation and Foreign Commerce; and, among others, from the Converſion of the beſt Arable Lands into Gardens and Orchards, for the Growth of Cyder, a Commodity with which they are rather over-ſtocked.

Within theſe ſeventy Years, there hath alſo aroſe in this Iſland, another great Obſtruction to their Tillage; the vaſt Augmentation of Incloſures, Fences, Hedges, and Highways; which, though they add much to the Beauty, and perhaps Strength of the Iſland, yet, hold no Pro-

portion to the Bigneſs of it, and waſte a great deal of good Land that might be turned to better Account.

THIS Humour of planting, it ſeems, ſeized the People about 170 Years ago, when the Iſland lay pretty much open; and theſe Incloſures they made for Shelter and Security to their Fruit: So that of Courſe ſuch Incloſures are great Enemies to the Pleaſure and Diverſion, which Gentlemen might otherways have had in Hunting in the proper Seaſons; unleſs about the Sea-Coaſts, where ſome few of the worſt Lands remain open, or incloſed with low weak Fences.

THEY have in *Jerſey* a Method of Agriculture, which, for it's Peculiarity, and differing in ſundry Particulars from that in *England*, Mr. *Camden* did not think below his Notice. Nature having denied them the Benefit of Chalk, Lime, and Marle, has plentifully ſupplied them with what fully anſwers thoſe Ends in Huſbandry. It is a *Sea-weed*, but a Weed more valuable to them than the choiceſt Plant cultivated in their Gardens. They call it *Uraic*, in antient Records *Veriſcum*, and grows abundantly on the Rocks about the Iſland. This Weed is gathered only at certain Times appointed by the Magiſtrates,

trates, and notified to the People by the public Cryer on a Market Day. There are two Seaſons of cutting it, the one in Summer, the other about the Vernal Equinox. The *Summer Uraic* is firſt dried well by the Sun on the Shore, then ſerves for Kitchen-fewel in Country Houſes, and makes a glowing Fire; and the Aſhes, being carefully preſerved, ſerve for Manure; and which they hold equal to a like Quantity of Lime. The *Winter Uraic*, being ſpread on the Green Swerd, and after buried in the Furrows by the Plough, 'tis incredible how with its Fat unctuous Subſtance, it meliorates and fertilizes the Earth, imbibing itſelf into it, ſoftening the Clod, and keeping the Root of the Corn moiſt during the moſt parching Heats of Summer.

In the Iſles * of *Feroe*, belonging to *Denmark*, they Practice the ſame dreſſing with *Uraic*.

In ſtormy Weather, the Sea often tears up from the Rocks vaſt Quantities of this uſeful Weed, and caſts it on the Shore, where the glad Huſbandman gathers it,

* See the Deſcription of thoſe Iſles by *Lucas Jacobſon Debes*, Provoſt of the Churches there.

and

and proper Officers attend to ſee it diſtributed in juſt Proportions.

The Genius of the Soil is naturally much inclined to Wood, and it is remarkable, the Genius of the People ſuits with that of their Soil. In ſpeaking to which, Mr. *Falle* gives this agreeable Deſcription. The whole Iſland, ſays he, eſpecially the more inland Part is ſo thick planted, that to one who takes a Proſpect of it from ſome higher Ground, it looks like an entire continued Foreſt, though in walking through it, not a Wood, hardly a Thicket or Coppice, is to be ſeen, but many Hedge-Rows and Orchards. Nothing can be imagined more delightful than the Face of the Iſland, when the Trees ſet along the Highways, and in the Avenues of Houſes are covered with Verdure, and the Orchards are full of Bloſſoms. For as the one affords a pleaſant, rural Shade, ſo the others recreate the Eye and perfume the Air with a ſweet Fragrancy. (Thus far Mr *Falle.)*

The middle Part of the Iſland has many pretty Hills riſing in it, yielding a delightful Object unto the Vallies, which receive from one another a mutual Pleaſure.

In this Iſland, as in *Guernſey*, they are well furniſhed and ſupplied with good Beef, Mutton, Hare, Rabbits, Fowl, *&c.* of the laſt of which, the *Jerſey* Partridge, with Pheaſants Eyes, red Legs, and Feathers of various Colours, is one of the moſt beautiful Birds in Nature, and is often ſent over alive to Perſons of Quality in *England* as a great Rarity; but the Fleſh is not much better than that of the common grey Partridge; and, if I miſtake not, this ſort of Partridge, are pretty common in the Southern Countries of *Europe*. The many Hedges in the Iſland breed and afford Shelter to an infinite Number of ſmall Birds, who chirp and warble melodiouſly all the Spring and Summer long. But their Farmers or Huſbandmen pay dear for that melodious Muſick, for they are very deſtructive to the Corn and Fruit.

Notwithstanding this Iſland is ſituated near a Continent, and amidſt Rocks, yet they are not by abundance ſo well ſupplied with Fiſh as *Guernſey*, where (as previouſly obſerved) every Day of the Week Boats go in laden with freſh Proviſions from the Sea: But in the Summer Seaſon they catch great Quantities of large fat Conger and Lobſters. And they might be

be better ſupplied than they are with all Kinds of other fine Fiſh, if their People followed, or took Delight in the fiſhing Trade, as ſome of the Inhabitants of *Guernſey* do. The Sea about this, and the adjacent Iſlands, might be ſtiled the Kingdom of *Congers*, ſo great is the Quantity taken and brought to Market at all Seaſons, ſome weighing from thirty to forty Pounds.

Otho de Grandison, Lord (or Governor) of theſe Iſlands in the Reigns of *Edward* I. and II. forced an Impoſt upon Congers ſalted for Tranſportation, and it amounted to four hundred Livres *Tournois* (fourteen of which Specie make one Pound ſterling) by the Year, at only one Penny *Tournois* for every Conger above ten Pounds weight ſo ſalted and tranſported. This, was however, an illegal Act of an Arbitrary Governor, for which his Widow ſuffered ſeverely in *Edward* III's Time.

Were a compleat natural Hiſtory given of this Iſland, or the others, I might take Notice of diverſe more Fiſh, Birds, *&c.* remarkable for ſome Peculiarity or other; as the Syren or Mermaid, ſo called from its having Teats like a Woman, frequently ſeen in theſe

theſe Seas; the Gronnard, to which their Fiſhermen give that Name, by Reaſon of the grunting Noiſe it makes when it finds itſelf intangled in the Net. It is of a perfect blood Colour, with the Head almoſt as big as the reſt of the Body. Nor muſt I omit Mr *Falle*'s Account of the Lançon (as much as to ſay little Lance, becauſe 'tis ſomewhat like one) which has this Property, that it is never found in the Water, but in ſome moving Sand-Bank, left dry by the Sea at low Ebb, and there it hides and burys itſelf pretty deep, 'till the Sand being ſtirred with an Iron-Hook it leaps up, and is taken by Handfuls. It was formerly a great Paſtime with young People of both Sexes, in the warm Nights of *July* and *Auguſt*, to go a catching this Fiſh, which they called *aller au Lançon*; for the Night is beſt for that Sport, and the Fiſh ſhines on the Sand. It might be prepared as Anchove, but is uſually eaten freſh, and when not kept too long, and well dreſſed, is very pretty eating, and makes a good Diſh. The People of *Jerſey* long thought this Fiſh ſingular only to that Iſland; but there is the ſame Kind frequently catched in *Cornwall*, where they call it a Sand-Eel.

In this Iſland, as in *Guernſey*, the Gentlemen of the Country (as they have no great

great Rivers) keep Carp and Eel, in their Viviers or Fiſhponds ; particularly great Quantities in a fine Canal, called the Canal of *Samarez*. There is alſo a large Pond in the Weſt of the Iſland, in Compaſs about twenty Acres of Ground, belonging to the Family of *Seigneur de St. Oven*, where grows a peculiar Sort of Carp of ſuch unuſual Bigneſs, and of ſo excellent a Taſte, that it is hardly to be equalled in *Europe*. Some have been brought into *England* that were three Foot four Inches long. This, I take on the Veracity of Mr. *Falle*, having never ſeen or otherwiſe known any of ſuch extraordinary a ſize, but in this Pond, Carp of two Foot eight Inches are very commonly taken.

The Reader will pleaſe to recollect that I took Notice in my Account of *Guernſey*, that in that Iſland, they never ſee, or are in the leaſt annoy'd by, either Toad, Snake, Adder, or other venemous Creature ; but that in *Jerſey* they abound with great Numbers : I ſhall, therefore offer the following Account of them from Mr. *Falle*, who was a Native of *Jerſey*, and in ſpeaking of them, ſays, the only Blemiſh and Diſgrace of this Iſland (as 'tis by ſome accounted) is the great Multitude of Toads, which ſwarm in it; and are chiefly ſeen in Summer and moiſt Weather.

ther. It muſt be owned they are no very agreeable Sight, though many of them have their Skins finely ſpeckled and variegated. 'Tis commonly ſaid *poiſonous as a Toad*; but where that Poiſon lurks, we are yet to find. — They neither bite nor Sting. They lye in our ſweeteſt Water, and among our beſt Fruit, when it falls on the Ground; and it is not known that ever any Man received an Injury from their doing ſo. The Notion our People have of them is, that they draw out what is noxious and impure in the Elements, and thereby contribute to Health; and this they pretend to prove by the contrary Example of *Guernſey*, which will not ſuffer a Toad to live in it; and yet is thought not ſo healthy as *Jerſey*. — Thus far Mr *Falle*, touching Toads *&c.* in *Jerſey*.

It is very natural for People of any Place or Part of the World, where venomous Creatures abound, to entertain among themſelves, or urge it, as an Opinion, to others, that they are not infected or injured by them.

As to the Opinion of the People of this Iſland, that Toads among them in ſuch Numbers (as Mr *Falle* mentions) are no Ways infectious, I ſhall beg Leave to make

this ſingular Obſervation. — Air, and the Breath of all living Creatures, of every Species or Kind, muſt naturally impregnate inſtantaneouſly, (wherever ſuch Creatures lie, move, or in any Shape or Form exiſt) and of Courſe give to, and receive from each other, every Particle of Æther, or moſt imperceptible Animalcula of infectious Quality, which either of them retain. — Now Toads particularly, are very rarely ſeen but on the Banks or Edges of the rankeſt Parts of Soil, or ſtagnated poiſonous Waters. Can any one doubt therefore, whether the Touch or Breath of ſuch Creatures, is not envenomed and infectious? It would ſeem a Contradiction in Terms to ſuppoſe otherwiſe.

Every one who reads this, may in a Moment recollect a ſingle Circumſtance only, (and that a very extraordinary one) juſt related as a Fact from *Paris*, viz. Two young Gentlemen went into a reputable Tavern in that City, called for a Bottle of Wine, and each taking off a Glaſs of it, were afterwards in a few Minutes of Time found dead in their Chairs: Upon this, the Neighbourhood, as well as the People of the Houſe, was alarmed, and a proper Officer ſent for to enquire the Cauſe of ſo odd and momentary an Accident. On

entering

entering the Tavern, the Maſter declared his Innocence, with all his Servants as to the ſudden Manner of the young Gentlemens Deaths; in Proof of which, as to any poiſonous Quality in his Wine, he deſired the Officer to attend him to his Cellars, to ſee the Caſk, and taſte the Claret out of it from which the Bottle was juſt before drawn; and withal being aſked if he would drink a Bumper out of the ſame Bottle, he readily complied, drank it off, and expired on the Stairs going into his Vaults; and upon drawing off the Remainder in the Caſk for Inſpection, there was found a very large Toad at the Bottom of it — This is a Demonſtration (with an unhappy Witneſs) of the infectious Quality of Toads, where the Poiſon imbibed in one only, was the melancholy Occaſion of ſo ſudden a Cataſtrophe.

But to return from ſo diſagreeable a Subject, more immediately to the preſent Purpoſe. — *Jerſey*, notwithſtanding the Number of Toads they promiſcuouſly abound with, is reckoned as healthy, in general, as it is otherwiſe extremely pleaſant.

This Iſland is rather more ſurrounded with vaſt and amazing Chains of Rocks

than *Guernſey*: The ſtrong Tides and Currents running much the ſame as about the other Iſlands; the Currents ſucceeding one another ſo faſt, that there is no ſtill Water there, as in the Channel at low Ebb.

The Iſland is divided into twelve Pariſhes, ſo laid out, that all have Communication, more or leſs, with the Sea. Theſe Pariſhes are again ſubdivided into Vintaines, ſo called from the Number of twenty Houſes, which make a Tything.

St. *Helier* is both the principal Pariſh and Head Town of the whole Iſland; a Town ſo called from an antient Father of that Name, who was a Biſhop of *Poictiers* in *France*, whoſe Body, according to ſome Authors, was ſuppoſed to be interred in a little Chapel near the famous Fort of *Elizabeth-Caſtle*, and conſecrated to his Memory. The next to this Town is *St. Aubin*, which gives Name to the Bay wherein they are both ſeated three Miles aſunder. It is a Bay of white Sand, firm and level, which makes the travelling ſmooth and pleaſant, from one Town to the other. The Situation of *St. Helier*, is both commodious and very delightful.

The

THE other Villages lie ſcattered up and down, like thoſe in *Guernſey*. Mr. *Heylin* in a ſhort Survey he made of this and the adjacent Iſlands, gave great Preference in many Reſpects to the Inhabitants of *Guernſey*, who he ſaid were a more ſociable generous People; and among other Things, obſerved, that during his Stay in *Guernſey*, he did not ſee one Beggar. That Circumſtance, however, greatly altered ſince his Time, and they were much peſtered, as well in *Guernſey* as *Jerſey*, with common Beggars and Vagrants; but there are now few or none in *Guernſey*, owing to the prudent, charitable, and indeed virtuous Diſpoſition of all Ranks of People among them, particularly the People of Fortune in *Guernſey*, who have within theſe few Years erected a fine Hoſpital for the Reception of Poor and unhappy Perſons of every Age and Degree: The publick Management, Oeconomy, and real Uſefulneſs of which I ſhall ſubjoin a full Account of (not having been furniſhed with the exact Particulars for their proper Place) towards the Cloſe of this Hiſtory.

THE principal Reaſon of ſuch Poverty in Mr. *Heylin*'s Time in *Jerſey*, he imagined to proceed from the exceeding Po-

pularity of the Inhabitants, there being eſtimated in his Time about thirty thouſand living Souls among them (now rather increaſed) which muſt of Courſe, conſidering the Smallneſs of the Iſland, have given Cauſe of Admiration. The Lord *Danby*, who wondered how ſuch a Span of Earth could contain ſuch Multitudes of People, was merrily anſwered by Sir *John Peyton*, the Lieutenant Governor, that the People married within themſelves like Conies in a Burrough; and at the Time Lord *Danby* and Mr. *Heylin* were there, they had not for then thirty Years been moleſted either with Sword, Peſtilence, or Famine.

St. *Helier*, the capital Town of *Jerſey*, contains about ſeven hundred Houſes, laid out in ſeveral wide well paved Streets; and on the South Weſt it has the Sea, with a pleaſant full View of *Elizabeth-Caſtle*, and of the Road for Ships. This Caſtle is eſteemed as fine a Fortreſs as moſt, and almoſt impregnable from its Situation: The whole Compaſs of Ground it is built on, is in Circuit little leſs than a Mile. The firſt Deſign of it was laid in 1551, the fifth Year of *Edward* VI. and towards defraying the Expence of erecting it, all the Bells in the Iſland, reſerving only

only one to every Church, were ordered to be taken down and ſold: They have a Report among them, that the Ship which was carrying thoſe Bells to *St. Malo* for Sale, ſunk ſuddenly going out of the Harbour, and ſome of the Inhabitants called that Accident a Puniſhment on Sacrilege.

To add to the Strength and Beauty of this noble Caſtle, much has been done to it in moſt Reigns, ſince its firſt Erection; and the Honourable Board of Ordinance, well apprized of its Importance, always allowed very liberally, not only for neceſſary Repairs, but likewiſe for all fitting Improvements. They have another famous Caſtle in this Iſland, called *Mont Orgueil*, greatly famed in their oldeſt Story, and of Antiquity beyond their earlieſt Records. But ſince the Building of *Elizabeth-Caſtle*, this of *Mont Orgueil* has been in a Manner ſlighted, and conſidered, as indefenſible; very probably, for this natural Reaſon, becauſe it may be thought needleſs to maintain two Grand Fortreſſes in ſo ſmall an Iſland: But this Caſtle, however, ſtands yet on its own Strength and Firmneſs, and even in its preſent Situation, retains an Air of Greatneſs that ſtrikes the Eye of all Strangers that obſerve it. There is alſo the Fort of

St.

St. Aubin fortified with cannon, of good Uſe for protecting the Ships within the Pier.

THEIR Militia in this Iſland, very much reſemble regular Forces, both in Habit, and Uſe of their Arms. This Body conſiſts of two Troops of Horſe, five Regiments of Foot, and a Train of Artillery, conſiſting of five and twenty Field-Pieces of Braſs, properly mounted; commanded by a Colonel, Majors, Captains, Lieutenants, Gunners and Pioneers; and are always ready for Service at a Minute's Warning. Their Military Government in all other Reſpects; together with their Civil Juriſdiction, Convention of their States, Privileges, Religion, *&c.* are much the ſame in Point of Manner and Ceremony, as in the Iſland of *Guernſey*.

IT was generally taken Notice of (in Page 32.) that the Inhabitants of this Iſland, from their greater Popularity, have ſome Advantages in Point of Trade more than thoſe of *Guernſey*; eſpecially in two conſiderable Branches carried on to *Newfoundland*, and up the *Mediterranean* Sea; but I did not obſerve that ſeveral rich Ships from *Jerſey*, have of late Years been

been employed in the *Guiney* Trade; and it is much to be wiſhed that ſo beneficial a Branch of Commerce, may meet with every deſired Succeſs. —— Thoſe two Branches of Traffick, with their own Manufacture of knit Stockings, Waiſtcoats, Breeches, *&c.* moſtly ſent over to *England*, is the general Scope of Trade, ſupported and carried on by the Merchants and others of this Iſland.

HAVING given in the firſt Sheets of this Hiſtory, a full and particular Account of *Guernſey*, and now ended a general View of *Jerſey*, I muſt very frankly acknowledge, that this Work might appear ſomewhat more complete, if the ſmall Iſles of *Alderney* and *Sark*, &c. could have been taken into it; each of thoſe Iſlands apart, having no doubt ſomething peculiar to them that might ſtand in need of a diſtinct Conſideration; for which I am not ſufficiently inſtructed or furniſhed with proper Materials: Thoſe Iſles, however, ſmall as they are, have the ſame Laws and Form of Government, the ſame Privileges, Language, Religion, and Manner of Worſhip, as that of *Guernſey*, to which Iſland they immediately belong and appertain, as Members of that particular Government and its Juriſdiction, in all

all Reſpects; in the ſame Manner as the *Leeward Charribbeé Iſlands*, in *America*, are all alike ſubject to the ſame Form of Government and one principal Governor, as Excellency and Commander in Chief in and over them; in which Character, *The Right Honourable Sir John Ligonier* is now diſtinguiſhed as Governor of *Guernſey*, with *Alderney*, *Sark*, &c. as Dependants to it.

SUPPLE-

SUPPLEMENT TO THE HISTORY OF *GUERNSEY.*

A Particular Account of the Publick HOSPITAL *in* GUERNSEY ; *worth the Notice of every judicious Reader.*

FOR the want of ſome Particulars, in their proper Place, in the Account of *Guernſey*, it has been left to this Chapter or concluſive Part, to ſpeak of a very laudable Undertaking brought to Perfection within theſe few Years in that Iſland, and it is hoped the Reader will excuſe any ſeeming Prolixity, on Account of the great Uſefulneſs of the Deſign, and the like Advantages it might be of to this Country, if it could here in, at leaſt, every County be regularly imitated.

IT is a general and frequent Complaint, that tho' there is no Place in the World where ſo much Money is raiſed for the Poor as in *England*, yet there is no Place, where from ſome Neglect or other, they are ſo ineffectually taken Care of: For, notwithſtanding the many generous Donations of charitable Benefactors, and the large parochial Proviſions made in moſt of our Pariſhes, our Streets in every Part of the City and Suburbs are filled with Beggars; ſome of them, no doubt, real Objects of Compaſſion, were their miſerable Caſes truly known, and others of them Objects offenſive to the Eye, and inſufferable to be publickly ſeen.

THE like Evil was formerly in that Iſland, where, it ſeems, (beſides Strollers about here and there) they frequently had near two hundred Poor upon the Pariſh of their principal Town, to whom a weekly Allowance was paid, amounting annually to upwards of 500*l.* Sterling. —This weekly Proviſion for them was ſo paid, partly out of Contributions received at the Church Doors, partly by Legacies, partly by Rent bequeathed by their Anceſtors, and finally by a Tax of four thouſand Livres (about 300*l.* Sterling)

ling) every Year, and ſometimes every nine Months.

IT was obſerved and much lamented, that this Money was generally miſpent by the Poor in Drunkenneſs and riotous Living, and not applyed to the Uſe intended; namely, to maintain their Families; and indeed, the Children were uſually left by their Parents deſtitute about the Streets, and brought up to all Manner of Vices, without any Care taken of their Education.

AT laſt, about the Year 1741, ſeveral generouſly humane and charitably diſpoſed Perſons, laying this Evil ſeriouſly to Heart, at once ſubſcribed largely towards building an Hoſpital: The Foundation of which was laid in the Year 1742, and the whole Fabrick finiſhed in the Middle of the next Year.

THIS Building is ſituated upon a Terraſs about four Feet high, and about one hundred and fifty Feet long.

THE Houſe is one hundred and ten Feet in Length, and forty Feet in Breadth, a double Houſe, built with Free Stone, two Story high, and eleven Saſh Windows to each Story, beſides large Garrets. It has two Vaults and three Cellars under

Ground. Erected in an open airy Place, detached from other Buildings. It commands a fine Proſpect of the Sea, and even as far as the Coaſt of *France*; and yet is ſheltered from moſt Winds. Beſides the main Body of the Building, there are alſo Out-houſes and Apartments of about one hundred and forty Feet long, built in Form of Sheds againſt the Wall, which contain a Bake-houſe, Waſh-houſe, Store-houſe for Proviſions, and another for Cordage; ſome Lodgings for a Shoemaker and a Taylor; and other Rooms, in order to lock in mad and diſordered People.

UPON the Terraſs, before the Front of the Hoſpital, there is a Rope Walk, and a Houſe to caſt Lead in. The whole Circuit of the Ground where the Hoſpital is built, the Garden and Out-houſes, contain better than an *Engliſh* Acre of Ground; all incloſed with a Stone Wall about twenty Feet high.

THE Government of this Hoſpital is under the Care and Conduct of twenty-four Directors, one Treaſurer, and a Superviſor; who appoint proper Officers for the Management of the Houſe, *viz.* a Matron, two under Matrons, a School-maſter, and an Uſher under him. The Treaſurer is yearly choſen, and keeps a regular

regular Account, Debtor and Creditor, of whatever regards the Revenues and Expences of the Hoſpital; and at the End of the Year, paſſes his Accounts before a General Aſſembly of the Directors.

THE Superviſor's Duty is to examine often the Conduct of the Poor in the Hoſpital, and to call an Aſſembly of Directors, when he and the Treaſurer think it neceſſary. The Treaſurer, Superviſor, and Directors are yearly choſen by Plurality of Votes at a publick Pariſh Meeting held for that Purpoſe.

THE Matron has the ſole Care and Management of whatever is tranſacted in the ſaid Houſe; keeps an Account thereof, and balances the ſame with the Treaſurer, every firſt Day of the Month; and is obliged to obſerve twelve particular Rules of Government in the Houſe.

THE ſecond Matron has thirteen Articles to obſerve; ſhe has the Care to order the Linnen, Stockings, and other Cloaths to be waſhed; and to ſee circumſpectly that the Houſe be daily kept clean and every Part in a decent Manner.

THE third Matron has under her Care to teach plain Needle-work to ſuch Girls

as are capable of being ſo inſtructed; and is to take Care alſo, that all the Linnen belonging to the Hoſpital be duly looked over, mended, and kept in Order; and for that Purpoſe, has ſix Articles delivered to her, by which ſhe is to govern herſelf.

THE Schoolmaſter reads Prayers to the Poor, Morning and Evening; catechiſes the Children once a Day; teaches them to read and write; keep a Journal of what comes in or goes out of the Hoſpital, and of what happens; and delivers the ſame to the Treaſurer every Saturday Evening, in order that he may ſet down ſuch of thoſe Articles in his Book, which he thinks neceſſary; and this Maſter has thirteen Articles delivered him for his Government.

THE Poor who have been admitted into this Hoſpital, are at this Time one hundred and twenty in Number, of different Kinds, *viz.* Mad, Naturals, Lame, Sick, Bed-ridden, Lying-in Women, infirm old People, and deſtitute poor Children, left by Sailors and Soldiers; beſides the Children belonging to the Pariſh (whereof ſeveral are Baſtards) and alſo, ſeveral lewd Women, incapable of ſubſiſting honeſtly, who they take among the other,

other, and make them waſh and work for their Livelyhood.

THE Poor, in this Hoſpital, who are capable of working, are employed *viz.* The Men and Boys to pick Oakum, make Twine, lay Cordage, caſt Lead, *&c.* The Women are employed in ſpinning Wooll; which the little Girls are taught to knit into Stockings.

THE Poor have good Bedding and Linnen to lie upon, and decent Places or Apartments; and three ſufficient comfortable Meals a Day: At Dinner they have freſh Beef, Salt Pork, Peaſe Soup, and now and then Fiſh and Parſnips, and Bread and Butter at Breakfaſt and Supper; (their Butter reckoned ſome of the beſt in *Europe*) and about a Pint of ſmall Beer at every Meal, except the little Children, who drink out of a Spring, remarkable for the ſoft milky Quality of its Water.

IT is eſtimated, that each Perſon in this Hoſpital, coſts yearly from fifty to fifty five Shillings Sterling apiece, their whole Charges and Expence included. — The yearly Charge of this Hoſpital is defrayed by the Income ariſing from the Hire of the Vaults and Cellars; by the Manufac-

ture the Poor work in the Hoſpital; by Rents due to the Poor, as before mentioned; by Intereſt of about 2000 *l.* Sterling in the Funds; by Alms Collected at the Church Porch; and finally by caſual Benefactions, which have been received; and particularly two this Year, *viz.* 1000 *l.* from *James Perchard*, Eſq; a Native of that Iſland, but now reſiding in *Geneva*; and another of 100 *l.* from a Gentleman who deſired to be unknown.

THE Advantages reſulting from the Erection of this Hoſpital are evident: Firſt, as it tends greatly to promote Labour and Induſtry. —When ſtrong bodied People, though naturally prone to Idleneſs, know they muſt work either in or out of the Hoſpital, or Work-houſe, or ſtarve, they will, from ſuch Neceſſity, of Courſe ſet themſelves in good earneſt to Buſineſs, and, no doubt chuſe rather to work in their own Cottages or Dwellings, than in a Publick Work-houſe; where they muſt neceſſarily be under ſome Confinement. This appeared manifeſt at the firſt Admiſſion of the Poor into this Workhouſe. The two hundred that received the Alms of the Pariſh, were told that they might be admitted, but that their Penſion, or weekly Allowance, would from that Time ceaſe; and yet,

yet, not above ſeventy accepted of it: — The reſt, immediately found Ways and Means to provide for their Families without any Help from the Pariſh, which plainly ſhews how unworthy near two thirds of the whole were before to receive any Alms at all.

SECONDLY, here the Poor, who really are Poor, are duly taken Care of in Sickneſs and in Health; have every Thing comfortably provided for them, in a clean wholeſome Manner, according to their Circumſtances. Their reaſonable Wants of every kind are ſupplyed, and therefore they ought to be content and thankful to do their Duty; that is, in doing honeſtly and induſtriouſly all they can do in that State of Life, wherein it has pleaſed their Maker to place them. — It is, indeed, a Sin for them to murmur, complain, or refuſe to work, when no Work is put upon them beyond their Strength and Skill; nor are they kept much cloſer or longer to it, than other poor People without Doors are obliged to comply with, if they are as induſtrious as they ought to be in getting a Livelihood for themſelves and Families.

THIRDLY, This Hoſpital, whilſt it provides for the Neceſſities of the Body, takes

takes Care alſo, of the more important Part, the Soul. It is properly ſpeaking a Nurſery for Religion and Virtue; by having daily Prayers, and the Scriptures conſtantly read and properly expounded; and Poor Children inſtructed in the early Principles of Chriſtianity, and the Proteſtant Form of Worſhip, according to the Church of *England*.

SINCE the Eſtabliſhment of this Hoſpital, there have been fifty Children inſtructed, who would, otherwiſe, have been Vagabonds, and given up to all Manner of Vice: Inſtead of which, they have here laid out for them ſuch a ſure Foundation for Religion and Goodneſs as may eſtabliſh in their Minds a true Habit of Induſtry and Contentment in their Station.

LASTLY, by the Erection of this charitable Eſtabliſhment the Pariſh has been freed for theſe ſeven Years paſt of an Annual Rate of about 300 *l.* Sterling, which before they were obliged to pay; ſo that they have viſibly ſaved in this ſhort Space of Time, the Sum of 2000 *l.* Sterling, and in all Probability, are like to be freed of the abovementioned Incumbrance for ever.

THESE, are therefore very material Inducements to all Perſons, merely from temporal

temporal Conſiderations, and for their own private Intereſt to ſubſcribe (I will ſay largely) to ſuch Deſigns: Since, beſides the Merit of a good Intention, they will not only be ſoon reimburſed of what they ſo generouſly give or contribute, but in a few Years wholly exempt themſelves from paying any Tax at all to the Poor; nor could their Pariſhes or the publick Streets be any Ways infeſted (as they now ſo abominably are) with common Beggars and Thieves.

AMONG ſuch Numbers of worthy Perſons in *Guernſey*, who ſubſcribed to this truly nobly, charitable, and well-concerted Undertaking, it might be invidious to enumerate many Names, where *all* ſo heartily concurred, yet, I cannot forbear the particular Mention of Mr. *Nicholas Dobree*, Sen. who was one of the firſt Projectors, and has all along ſhewn an ardent and uncommon Zeal in the Erection of this Hoſpital, and, ſince the Building of it, has always had a particular Inſpection over the Government and Oeconomy of the Houſe. It is the ſame Gentleman who Publiſhed ſome Years ago, three Charts of the Iſlands of *Guernſey*, *Alderney*, *Hem* and *Jethon*, from an actual Survey taken by himſelf; and the only Charts that

that are eſteemed exact, and very accurately done: All the others that are in any of the Books of Charts being, according to good Judges, extremely erroneous and not to be depended on.

THE good Effect and extraordinary Succeſs this Hoſpital has met with, has encouraged moſt of the Pariſhes in the Iſland to come into the ſame Project of Building one for themſelves; and the Gentlemen of the capital Town, where this is erected, have already ſubſcribed near 1000*l.* Sterling towards ſo laudable an Undertaking.

I CANNOT cloſe this Deſcription of their Publick Hoſpital, or Work-houſe, without repeating the obvious Utility, and indeed, real Happineſs, to a People in general, where Buildings of ſuch a Nature, are ſo carried on and ſupported; and could heartily wiſh to ſee a proper Spirit of Emulation for *publick Good* as vigorouſly followed if not in every Pariſh, at leaſt in every County in *this Kingdom*; and that the Examples for ſuch Purpoſes already ſhewn in *London*, *Middleſex*, and *Northampton*, (this laſt greatly improved, and in its firſt Projection and Infancy highly encouraged by that noble and worthy Peer the preſent Earl of *Halifax*) were immediately imitated,

imitated in every proper Part and Place of the *Britiſh* Nation, which with great Facility might be very ſoon accompliſhed. *Then*, (and hardly 'till then, or ſome ſuch Method be fallen upon) will the Streets of our Capitol, in particular, be entirely freed from thoſe Swarms of miſerable Objects, which in every Part and Place preſent themſelves to our View. And, however wicked and abandoned ſome of their Number (as Thieves and Robbers) may be, yet among that miſerable Multitude, there are doubtleſs many others of a different Caſt; whoſe naked Garbs, dejected Countenances, and deplorable Situation (ſinking beneath the Weight of Affliction at our very Doors, in the feeling Pangs of Hunger and Cold) would pierce an Heart of Adamant or Steel, with tender Bowels of Compaſſion towards their bleeding Miſery, and Diſtreſs: —— Vagabonds, the Children, and Offspring of Vagabonds, who have not, nor cannot for Want of decent Neceſſaries and Recommendation, however deſirous perhaps to do their beſt, get themſelves into any ſort of Bread, in order to keep them from Beggary and ſtarving. This, however hardly ſome People may judge of ſuch unhappy Creatures, may be truly their unfortunate Caſe; which nothing can redreſs,

or

or rid our Streets of them, but ſome Means being found out to fix them in a kind of publick Manufactory, agreeable to the Manner in which the like Objects are become ſo uſefully employed in their Work-houſe in *Guernſey*; and indeed, ſnatched out of the Jaws of inevitable Deſtruction. —— A Method like this, as it could not fail being pleaſing to the Great Author of our Being, ſo it would likewiſe repay the generous Contributors to ſuch Buildings treble Fold to anſwer every End and Expence.

THE following is an exact State of one Troop of Horſe, and three Regiments of Militia at *Guernſey*; abſtracted from the other Force, and Strength of the Iſland.

LIST of the Troop of Horſe under the Command of *Peter Carey*.

Peter Carey, Major.
—— ——, Captain.
Thomas Dobrée, Lieutenant.
—— ——, Coronet.

Nicholas Retilley, } Quarter Maſters.
John Melliſh, }
Edward Collings, }

Samuel Goodwin, } Poſts.
Samuel Le Page, }

Samuel Pepper, Drummer.

Nicholas Guille.
Nicholas Mauger.
Abraham Marquant.
Daniel de Gutron.
Peter Tourgis.
Hillary de Jerſey of the Groignet.

John le Lacheur.
Peter Rouget.
Hilary Chivret.
Paul Dufour.
Eliſha Priaulx.
Nicholas de Garis.
John Goſſelin.
Peter le Page.
John Marquant.
Thomas Ollivier, Jun.
Nicholas Tardif.
Samuel Bonamy.
Samuel le Cocq.
Simon Rivoire.
Peter de Jerſey.
Peter de Carteret.
Peter le Cocq.
John Dobrée.
Joſeph Wood.
John Wood.
John le Meſurier, Jun.
James le Ray.
John Harris.
William Brock.
Nicholas Breton.
Henry Suthern.
Henry le Meſurier.
William Kennet.
Iſaac Dobrée.

Charles

Charles de Carteret.
Peter Dobrée, Son of *Nicholas.*

Reviewed the 25th of *June*, 1750, by Order of the Hon. *Charles Strahan*, Eſq; Lieutenant Governor of this his Majeſty's Iſland of *Guernſey*, 13 Men abſent from the Iſland.

PETER CAREY, *Major.*

State of the three Regiments of Militia at GUERNSEY, according to a general Review made the 25th of *June*, 1750.

Colonels	Captains	Lieutenants	Enfigns	Serjeants	Drummers	Soldiers	King's Muſkets	Bayonets and Belts	Cartouch-Boxes	Balls	Flints
Eliſha le Marchant Eſq;	7	4	4	20	2	600	350	350	350	2100	3500
William le Marchant, Eſq;	6	6	6	17	6	550	325	325	325	1950	3250
Charles Andros, Eſq;	7	5	6	21	7	650	325	325	325	1950	2250
Total	20	15	16	58	15	1800	1000	1000	1000	6000	10,000

Thomas le Marchant, Major. John Andros, Major. John Brock, Captain and acting Major.

Eſtabliſhment of GUERNSEY.

	per Diem.		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*
Lieutenant Governor — — —	0	10	0
Chaplain — — — — — — — —	0	6	8
Firſt Maſter Gunner — — —	0	2	0
Four other Gunners at 1*s.* each	0	4	0
Allowance for Fire and Candle at the Rate of 40 *l. per Annum.*	40	0	0

CONCLUSION.

AGREEABLE to my firſt Deſign, and what I had promiſed in my printed Propoſals for this Hiſtory, I ſhall now cloſe the whole with the following Account of the two firſt Chriſtian Kings of *France*, (*Clovis* and his Son *Childebert*) who reformed the antient People of that Kingdom from the rude Droſs of *Paganiſm*, and made a Donation of theſe Iſlands to a Biſhop of *Dol* in *Britanny*.

FROM the beſt and laſt Authors of the *French* Hiſtory, I am to obſerve, that four Kings from *Pharamond* (which in the *German* Tongue imports the Mouth of Generations) had ruled in France before *Clovis* abovementioned, and the common Opinion in that Nation begun to reckon the Kings of *France* from *Pharamond* their firſt King, whom they make to commence his Reign in 418, a Year in which happened a moſt remarkable Eclipſe of the Sun. But, if ſome

ſome antient Hiſtorians are to be credited, the *French* had ſeveral Kings before *Pharamond* begun to reign; and this *Pharamond* was reputed to have been the firſt Author of the *Salique Law*.

CLOVIS or LEWIS (for it is the ſame Name) the fourth King after *Pharamond*, was a comely Prince, of much Valour, according to the Bravery of thoſe Times; and early began a War againſt *Siagrius*, an Uſurper in *France*, who had been unlawfully ſet up King; and having defeated him near *Soiſſons*, forced him by Threats out of the Hands of one *Alaric* King of the *Viſigoths*, put him to death, and ſeized on all that the *Romans* had in *Gaul*. — He alſo ſubdued Part of the *Thuringians*, and impoſed a Tribute upon them; and his Conqueſts made him ſo famous, that *Gondebaud*, King of the *Burgundians* ſeemed to be no more than his Vaſſal, whoſe Niece *(Clotilda) Clovis* married in 491, by the Interpoſition of *Aurelian*, a *French* Lord, who had the County of *Melun* for his Reward.

MUCH about this Time, the *Almains* out of *Germany*, entring in an Hoſtile manner into the Territories of *Sigibert*, King of *Cologn*, *Clovis* his Kinſman engaging in his Quarrel at *Zuly*, his Men gave

gave Ground in the Action, and fell into Diſorder: The Greatneſs of the Danger made the King pray to the God of his Wife, and make a Vow, if he found Deliverance, he would be baptized; upon which, (according to my Author) the Scene immediately changed, and the Day became his own, with the Slaughter of a Multitude of his Enemies; and purſuing his Victory, he exterminated all thoſe that were on that Side of the *Rhine*.

BEING returned from this Expedition, and inſtructed in the Myſteries of Chriſtianity, he was baptized at *Rheims* on *Chriſtmas Day*, *Anno* 496. Whoſe Example *three thouſand* of his *French* Subjects ſoon followed; and the *French* boaſt he was at that Time, the only Orthodox King in the World, there being none but himſelf that did not either live in Error or Idolatry.

BUT the Zeal of Chriſtianity did not, it ſeems, allay his warlike Heart, for he aſſiſted *Gondeſigilus* againſt his Brother *Gondebaud*, the *Burgundian*, upon Condition only, that all Spoil ſhould be ſhared between them; and when they came to join Battle near *Dijon*, *Gondeſigilus* went over to the *French*, which made *Gondebaud* become his Tributary, though he held

held it not long: For ſcorning to pay Tribute, he watched his Opportunity, and beſieged *Gondiſigilus* in *Vienne*, and by Means of one *Fontenier*, finding a Paſſage through an Aqueduct into the City, he there ſlew him, with the Arian Biſhop of the Place, and ſo remained ſole King of *Burgundy*, although *Clovis* and another Prince made a League to conquer it.

AFTER this, ſome peaceable Days enſuing, *Clovis* applied himſelf to reform the *Salique Law*, from the Droſs of *Paganiſm*: but he and *Alaric*, not being able to continue long Friends, and a Rupture being fomented between them, by the Biſhop of *Acquitain*, out of the Hatred they bore to the *Arian* Principles of *Alaric*, the Kings had an Interview near *Amboiſe*, and it being found impoſſible to reſtrain the Ardour of *Clovis*, he made War upon *Alaric* under the ſpecious Pretence of Religion, took Tours, and in the Plains of *Vouglay*, not far from *Poictiers*, defeated *Alaric*'s Army, and ſlew him with his own Hand: After which, he became Maſter of *Abigeois*, *Rovergne*, *Quercy* and *Auvergne*, while himſelf with another Part of his Army took *Poictiers*, all *Bourdelois*, and *Bourdeaux* itſelf, where he wintered.

IN

IN the Spring, *Thoulouſe* fell to his Share, then *Angouleſme*, whoſe Walls fell down before him; and laſtly, *Clovis* took all the three *Acquitains*, which were thereby freed from the Yoke of the *Arians*, while *Gondebaud*, purſuant to his Treaty with him, conquered the two *Narbonnois* with the City of *Narbonne*.

ALL theſe Succeſſes put together extended the Fame of *Clovis*, even to the Eaſt, from which *Anaſtaſius* the Emperor ſent him honourable Letters and imperial Ornaments; ſo that he was ever after accoſted with the Titles of *Conſul* and *Auguſt*, which were not altogether uſeleſs to him towards the more entire Subjection of the *Gauls*, who had ſtill ſome Veneration for thoſe Titles.

ALL theſe Circumſtances, however, raiſed *Clovis*, the Jealouſy and Hatred of *Theodorick*, King of the *Oſtrogoths*, who ſent a great Army againſt him, under the Command of Count *Ibba*, who, in a bloody Battle, ſlew 30,000 *French* and *Burgundians*, and afterwards took from them all they had conquered in *Provence* and *Languedoc*, except *Thoulouſe* and *Uzez*.

CLOVIS,

CLOVIS, fretted at theſe Loſſes, laid Snares for the other petty Kings of *France*, to rid himſelf of them by ſuch Methods of Cruelty and Treachery, as no way became a Chriſtian and Orthodox King; and at length died at *Paris*, *Nov.* 26, *Anno* 511, Aged 45, having reigned 30 Years.

HE had four Sons living, *Thierry*, *Clodomir*, *Childebert* and *Clotaire*, the firſt by a Concubine, the other three by *Clotilda*; as alſo a Daughter of the ſame Name, afterwards married to *Amalaric*, King of the *Viſigoths* in *Spain*.

THE *French* under *Clovis* his Reign, wholly freed themſelves from the *Roman Empire*, and became their Allies upon equal Terms, 'till which Time 'tis thought they had been Stipendaries, or Tributaries to them. — That Part of *Gaul* which reaches from the *Rhine* to the *Loire*, was called *France*, and the *French* meaſured thoſe Lands and took the third or fourth Part, which they ſhared among themſelves.

THE People conſiſted of Freemen and Slaves, the firſt of whom all bore Arms. The *Gauls* paid Tribute to the *French*, but

but the natural *French* paid hardly any thing beſides their perſonal Service: They were bred up to the Exerciſe of Arms from their Youth, were of a good Shape and Stature, enured to Labours, ſtrong, and exceeding nimble: They had left off the Uſe of Bows and Arrows and in Lieu of them for offenſive Weapons, they uſed the Sword and the *Angon*, which was a Dart of a moderate Length, with an Iron-bearded Head, and Cheeks of Iron, and the two edged Ax, which they called *Franciſque*, that might be darted as well as the *Angon*, though nearer at Hand. As for defenſive Arms, unleſs it were their Commanders, they had only the Buckler, which they managed very dexterouſly to ſhelter, and Tortoiſe-like, to cover themſelves in Onſets. — Their whole Army were Infantry, or, if there were a few Horſe, they only ſerved to attend the General and carry his Orders. They retained a good Part of the Eſtabliſhment made by the *Romans*, as the Manner of raiſing Impoſts; alſo of providing Magazines, for the Subſiſtence of their Troops, maintaining Horſes and Carriages for Travellers on their great Roads, publick Sports, Horſe-racing, and Combats of Wild Beaſts; and their Kings believed themſelves as abſolute as Emperors, created Dukes, Counts, and great Maſters of

of their Militia, with many others, in exact Imitation of the *Roman* Dignities.

To this *Clovis*, or *Lewis*, (their firſt Chriſtian King of *France*) ſucceeded *Childebert* his Son, who made a Donation of *Guernſey*, *Jerſey*, and the other Iſlands on the Coaſts of *Normandy* and *Britanny*, treated of in this Hiſtorical Account, to one *Sampſon*, Biſhop of *Dol* in *Brittanny*, as previouſly remarked in my Introduction. But theſe Iſlanders embraced fully the Chriſtian Religion, in the Time of *Maglorius*, who ſucceeded that *Sampſon* in the ſaid Biſhoprick.

IN *Childebert*'s Reign, many bloody Battles were fought in *France*, *Germany*, and *Italy*, compoſed frequently of Bodies of 200,000 Men on each Side in the Field; twenty and thirty thouſand whereof were often left ſlain on the Spot where their Armies engaged.

AMONG the other Virtues of *Childebert*, he was reckoned to be a Prince eminent for his Charity and particular Regard to the Poor, and great Zeal for Religion, according to the Mode of thoſe Times. He left a Wife and two Daughters behind him, whom *Clotaire* his Succeſſor detained in Priſon, 'till he had ſecured the King-

dom to himſelf; and this, moſt *French* Authors ſay, was the firſt Example of the *Salique Law*, in Favour of the Male Succeſſion to the Crown; which, however long eſtabliſhed and ſtill conformed to, appears in my humble Opinion, rather compulſive than lawful.

I HAVE already, in the Courſe of this Hiſtorical Account, offer'd ſufficient Teſtimony of the dutiful Zeal and loyal Adherence of *theſe Iſlanders* (particularly thoſe of *Guernſey*) ſhewn on all Occaſions to his *preſent Majeſty*, his Royal Family, and our happy Eſtabliſhment, both in Church and State; — *Yet*, (without any ſort of View or Motive whatever, but *that* of ſetting their inflexible Duty and Zeal in a true Light,) I cannot forbear to cloſe the Whole, without giving one more remarkable Inſtance, contained in the following Particulars, of their publick Behaviour and Reſolution, on the immediate Knowledge ſent them, (on the Death of Q. *Anne*,) that the Imperial Diadem of theſe Kingdoms was become lawfully and juſtly deſcended *to*, and by ſolemn Proclamation eſtabliſhed *on*, the illuſtrious Head of the *Royal Houſe* of *Hanover*.

IT would be needleſs to inſiſt on the Manner and univerſal Joy that appeared in

in this Nation on *Proclaiming* his late Majeſty *George* the *firſt* (as well as our *preſent* moſt gracious *Sovereign*) *King* of the *Britiſh Realms*: But the Manner of doing it in the Iſland of *Guernſey*, had ſomething ſo very remarkable, that it deſerves *particular Notice*; — and ſo much the more, that the ſaid Iſland, as hath been *fully* ſhewn, is a Part of the ſmall Parcel of the Dominions of *Normandy*, which is ſtill left to the Crown of *England*; and that the Behaviour of the People there, on that extraordinary Occaſion, ſhew'd not only how great the Difference is betwixt them who live under a *Free* Government, and the reſt of their Brethren the *Normans*, who live under *Deſpoticiſm*; but alſo ſhews the Difference betwixt thoſe of our own Subjects, who are influenced by *high-flown Notions*, and thoſe who are not; which *laſt* appears to be the Happineſs of the People of that Iſland. The Account is as follows:

GUERNSEY, 14 *Aug.* 1714.

" ON *Sunday* Night a Veſſel of this " Iſland arrived here from *St. Malo*, " and brought Advice, that the Day be- " fore ſeveral Merchants of that Town " had received Letters from *Paris*, im- " porting that her Majeſty Queen *Anne*,

" our late gracious Sovereign was dead,
" which we hoped would not prove true;
" but the next Morning an *Engliſh* Veſſel
" arrived here from *Saltcomb*, and another
" from *Topſham*, who brought the ſame
" News, which put the People of this
" Iſland into a great Conſternation."

" THE Lieutenant Governor and the
" Royal Court met immediately there-
" upon, and having called before them
" one Mr. *Pope*, Maſter of one of the a-
" foreſaid Veſſels, and examined him
" upon Oath, he declared that the
" Queen was dead, and that he was pre-
" ſent at *Dartmouth*, when King *George*
" was proclaimed there as he had been in
" *London*, and that the like had been
" done in ſeveral other Places in the
" Kingdom; Whereupon the Lieutenant
" Governor and Royal Court (leſt they
" ſhould be backward in expreſſing their
" Zeal towards his Majeſty) after the
" Example of their Predeceſſors, agreed
" to cauſe his Majeſty King *George* to be
" proclaimed on *Thurſday* the 12th Inſt.
" with the uſual Solemnity; and accor-
" dingly the Town Regiment of Militia,
" being under Arms, and lining the
" Streets to the Court Houſe, the Lieu-
" tenant Governor, the Judge Delegate,
" with all the Jurats then in the Iſland,

" the

" the Clergy, Officers, and the Gentle-
" men of the Iſland, went from the Judge
" Delegate's Houſe to the Court, pre-
" ceded by the Colours and Drums of
" the ſaid Regiment; and every one
" being ſeated in his Place, *Peter Martin*,
" Eſq; Judge Delegate or Preſident of the
" ſaid Court made the following Speech
" to the Aſſembly."

GENTLEMEN,

" YOU all know the Occaſion that
" brings us together in this Place;
" the ſad and melancholy News of the
" Deceaſe of our Auguſt Princeſs Queen
" *Anne* of glorious and triumphant Me-
" mory; which undoubtedly would have
" caſt us into the deepeſt Affliction, had
" not the *Divine Providence* been pleaſed
" to *interpoſe* in our Favour. — And in-
" deed, had we known a Month ago,
" that the Queen would be this Day
" in her Grave, with what diſmal Ap-
" prehenſions and Alarms would our
" Hearts have been ſeized? —— The
" Proſpect before us was cloudy and
" lowering; and the *Malice*, *Pride*, and
" *Arrogance* of the Enemies of our *Reli-*
" *gion* and *State*,* were grown to that

* Thoſe who wanted to introduce Popery, &c.

" Height, that they ſeemed ſo far to
" have compaſſed their Deſigns, that
" their Projects could not miſcarry, and
" that the putting them in Execution
" depended entirely on their Will and
" Pleaſure. — But, Gentlemen, the black
" and heavy Clouds are moſt happily
" diſpelled ; GOD himſelf has blown
" away the impending Storm, ſo that
" we have not ſo much as heard any
" Thunder roar about us. — He has in
" his infinite Mercy permitted that the
" moſt high, moſt potent, and moſt ex-
" cellent Prince *George*, Elector of *Brunſ-*
" *wick Lunenburg*, her Majeſty's *lawful*
" *Succeſſor*, ſhould be peaceably pro-
" claimed King of his Kingdoms, in his
" Capital City, with extraordinary Ac-
" clamations of Joy, and in all the other
" Places where the News of the late
" Queen's Death was brought. Such
" happy Beginnings, Gentlemen, give us
" Ground to hope, that they will be at-
" tended with proſperous Conſequences,
" and that GOD will *protect* our *Auguſt*
" *Monarch*, as he did the good and holy
" King *David* ; that he will take him
" by the right Hand, and guide him by
" his Counſel ; and that after having
" lent him many, many Years, to be the
" Support and Defender of his Subjects,
" the Pillar and Buttreſs of the Church

" of

" of *England*, as by Law eſtabliſhed,
" the Protector of all *Proteſtant* Churches
" that are yet ſtanding, and the glorious
" Deliverer of thoſe that lie in Chains,
" and under the Croſs, he will receive
" him to his Glory."

" THIS is undoubtedly what you
" wiſh with me; ſo that nothing more
" remains for us to do, than to diſcharge
" our Duty as good and faithful Subjects
" to his Majeſty King *George*, by pro-
" claiming forthwith his Majeſty both in
" this and all other Places, where our
" Princes are uſually proclaimed on the
" like Occaſion."

HIS Majeſty King *George* was there-upon immediately and unanimouſly proclaimed with a great and extraordinary Number of People, which the Solemnity of the Day had gathered together; the great Guns from the Caſtle firing, with the Battalion in Garriſon there, and the Regiment of *Militia* (now augmented to *three*, with a *Troop* of *Horſe*) with the Town Ordnance anſwering them, *&c.* The Solemnity being over, the Lieutenant Governor, the Royal Court, Clergy, and Gentlemen, went to a ſplendid Dinner, prepared by order of the ſaid Royal Court, where his *Majeſty's* Health was drank,

drank, as that of his *Royal Highneſs* the *Prince*, and thoſe of the *other Princes*, and *Princeſſes* of the *Royal Blood* of *Hanover*, with many loyal Healths; the Bells ringing throughout the Iſland all Day, which ended with Bonfires and Illuminations that were continued very late in the Night.

SUCH was the univerſal Joy and Loyalty of the Inhabitants of *Guernſey*, ſo heartily ſhewn towards the *preſent Royal Family* on that Event: — An Event! which *Providence* (on the *glorious firſt of Auguſt*) has made remarkable in the *Britiſh Annals*; and I ſincerely hope the like *Zeal* will never be wanting, animated with every Degree of proper Spirit and Reſentment, towards all *thoſe* who would dare inſinuate contrary Principles, in order to create groundleſs Jealouſies, and unnatural Feuds and Animoſities in the Hearts and Minds of the *Good*, *Loyal*, *Proteſtant Subjects* of *Great Britain*.

HAVING now ended the Account of *Guernſey*, with the other Points propoſed to be treated of, I cannot add more without being ſuperfluous. — With my grateful Thanks, therefore, to thoſe *Noble* and

and other Perſons who have honoured and obliged me as *Subſcribers*, I have thus committed my Performance, ſuch as it is, to the World.

THOSE, naturally indulgent, will, I hope, overlook trivial Inaccuracies, where Perſpicuity, or any ſmall Beauties, may in other Parts of it appear to counterbalance *ſuch Defects*; eſpecially, as I frankly confeſs that the whole of this Work happens entirely to have paſſed my own Hands only.—*Others*, of a different Nature, who are more inclined to *find* out a *Fault*, than generouſly *excuſe* one, will no doubt, convert *all* into *Error*.— To the *firſt*, I ſhall owe reſpectful *Gratitude*; to the *latter* ——

FINIS.

N. B. *In Page* 66 *of this Hiſtory*, after *the Word* Plymouth, *in the* 9*th Line*, *pleaſe to obſerve*, viz. *In two Acts of Parliament*, 12 Car. II. *and* 1 William *and* Mary, *there have been* 2000 *Todds of Wooll allowed for* Guernſey, 4000 *for* Jerſey, 400 *for* Alderney, *and* 200 *for* Serk, *to be exported from* Southampton only.

BL